

OUR 118TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

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Issue No. 30 34 pages, plus 8-page section

MARCH 23, 2006

75 CENTS

You choose town leaders on Tuesday

By Brian Davidson

Andover residents will have the choice next week of sticking with their current leaders or choosing as many as one new selectman and two new School Committee members.

Candidates offer views on budget, youth center, senior living, more
Pages 4-5

Challengers Ann Weld and write-in candidate Robert Cofill will try to unseat School Committee incumbents Tony James and Art Barber. In the selectmen's race, Joseph Leone will take on incumbents Brian Major and Ted Teichert. (For their opinions on a variety of issues, see pages 4 and 5.)

Andover residents can vote at this year's town election on Tuesday, March 28, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Richard J. Collins Field House attached to Andover High School on Shawsheen Road.

The entrance to the polls is at the rear of the field house, where parking will be available for voters during the day. A voter shuttle bus will be running from the

Continued on page 5

TOWN TALK

Shopping for a senator?

Shoppers at Market Basket on Monday evening may have run into Kevin Scott, a Republican candidate who will oppose Ted Kennedy for US Senate in November – if he can get enough signatures.

Scott was out collecting signatures for his nomination. He needs 10,000 to have his name added to the ballot. So far he has slightly more than 3,000.

The longtime Wakefield resident said he had already run into several of his childhood acquaintances while pressing the flesh at the supermarket.

Andover was just one stop on Scott's itinerary. He said he plans to travel all over the state to collect the signatures he needs by May 9.

– Greta Cuyler

Town Talk continued on page 10

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KIDS

8-page section on children in this issue

PERCOLATING IDEAS ON SENIOR LIVING

Retired? We want to hear from you

Tell us what how you would like to see Andover improve. Drop us a line at 33 Chestnut St., call reporter Greta Cuyler at 978-475-7000 Ext. 8726, or send an e-mail to editor Neil Fater at nfater@andovertownsman.com.

Elder-tax group meets for first time

By Greta Cuyler

The Elderly Tax Aid Committee is looking for donations to help seniors pay their property taxes.

Town Meeting created the committee nearly six years ago, in 2000, but it had never met until this Tuesday. Only \$2,700 has been raised since the town began collecting money for the group in 2003.

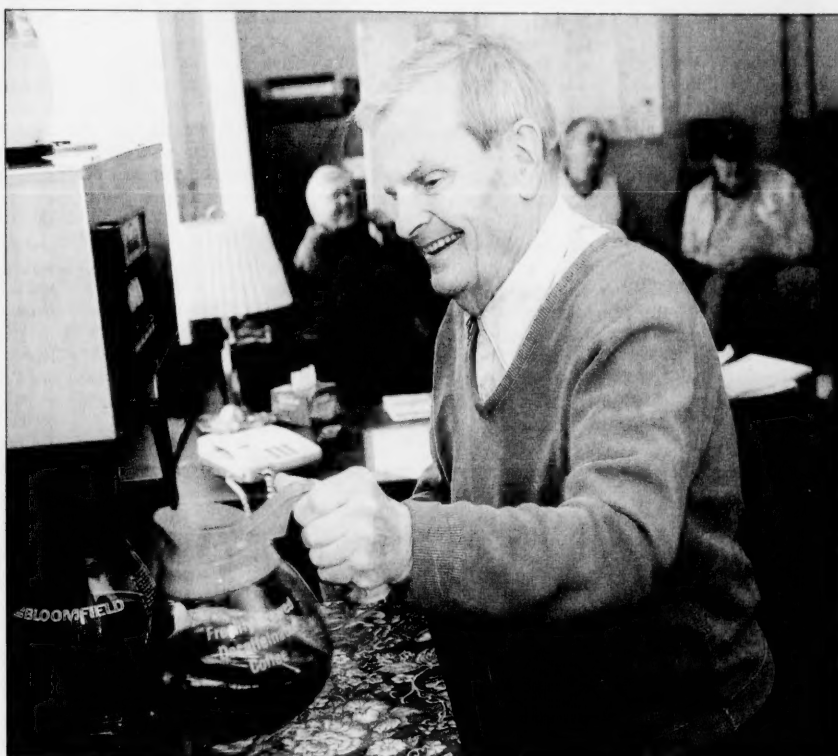
The group's priority is to raise enough money to offer significant ongoing assistance to seniors. The average property tax bill in Andover is \$6,000.

"If you exhaust the funds immediately, then it's three to four years until you can help someone again," said committee member Kristine Arakelian, a social worker at Andover Elder Services.

"At some point, if we never touch the principal, 50 years from now people will be thrilled that we left the fund alone," said David Reilly, committee chairman and town treasurer. But he acknowledged that waiting does little good to people who need assistance now.

The committee met on Tuesday for the first time since its inception to discuss rules and guidelines for awarding funds.

Continued on page 10



Arthur Glines helps himself to a cup of coffee at the Welcome Center in Old Town Hall as, in back, from left, Phil Nardone, Don Ellsworth and James Carmichael talk about town issues.

What do retirees want?

Controlled spending – and to stay in the town they love

By Greta Cuyler

Dave McDonald, 82, was born in Andover. So were his parents and his grandfather. His wife's grandfather was the town blacksmith. He never plans to move out of this community.

"At this point, no, under no conditions," he said. "It's a great town."

But, like many seniors who say they want to remain in Andover, McDonald believes the town could do better for seniors by controlling its spending. While seniors are concerned about a number of issues, seniors of moderate income focus on reducing spending as something that would improve Andover living for them.



Don Ellsworth: Easy does it on plowing

do, you have to learn to do with what you've got."

Libby Shea moved to Andover 53 years ago. It was, she said, a different place than it is today.

"I feel like the younger generation resents the older people, I

don't think they want us to be here," said Shea, 75.

"I just feel they want to overlook that we even exist. We're paying the same taxes as they are. I think they want more than they should get."

In her mind's eye, she can picture a time when 20 people would excitedly gather around a small black and white television. Most children today, including her own grandchildren, have not only a television but also a computer in each bedroom. "It's a different world and I don't understand it," she said.

Shea, like other seniors, said she wishes Andover would manage its finances within available

Continued on page 10

VIETNAM MEMORIAL

Location, Memorial Day unveiling in question

By Greta Cuyler

Andover's director of veterans services hopes to unveil a Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Memorial Day, but at least one official wants to wait to see if Andover "can do better."

John Doherty, veterans services director, presented a preliminary design to selectmen in September. The monument

would honor the 1,004 Andover residents who served in uniform in some capacity during the Vietnam War era.

"We feel that with a number that size, it needs its own memorial," said Doherty.

The names of seven Andover men killed in Vietnam will be engraved on the memorial. Currently the names of 10 service-

men killed in Korea and Vietnam share a bronze plaque at Ballardvale Green.

Doherty's proposed monument is four feet wide, 7 feet tall and 10 inches thick and would be located along Whittier and Chestnut streets, the opposite side of the Park from the World War II memorial.

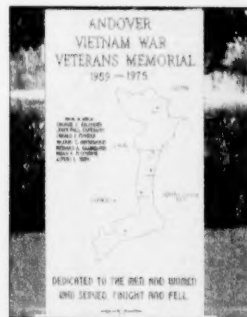
Selectman John Hess thinks

there should be more citizen input as to the memorial's design and location.

"I have no objections to a memorial for veterans of the Vietnam era," he said. "Having it in a corner of the Park that nobody looks at isn't informative."

He would like it to be in a spot

Continued on page 4



An image of the proposed memorial.

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POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

Wednesday, March 15 - At 11:24 a.m., Leonard P. Casey, 41, of 32 Gage St., Methuen, was arrested and charged with a subsequent offense of operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

At 2:47 p.m., Andrew R. Treacy, 42, of 19 Parker Chase, Apt. 2, Stoneham, was arrested and charged with a stop sign violation, failing to wear a seat belt, a subsequent offense of operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and giving a false name/address to police. He also had an outstanding warrant for operating under the influence.

Thursday, March 16 - At 7:48 p.m., Ryan M. Stuart, 28, of 34 Summer St., Apt. C, Andover, was arrested and charged on two outstanding warrants: larceny by check under \$250 (five counts) and larceny by check (eight counts).

Sunday, March 19 - Matthew Jaroche, 18, of 4 Juliette St., Andover, was arrested and charged with defacing property and intimidating a witness.

Monday, March 20 - At 12:38 p.m., Tracy O'Donnell, 40 of 25 Mount Grove St., Lowell, was arrested and charged with a subsequent offense of operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, having a revoked registration, attaching the wrong plates to a motor vehicle, having an uninsured motor vehicle/trailer and having an uninspected motor

vehicle.

Tuesday, March 21 - At 9:28 a.m., Jessy Rodriguez, 24, of 117 Andover St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with possession of a Class A substance.

INCIDENTS

Thursday, March 16 - At 11:15 a.m., police received a report of two people in the parking lot of a Lowell Street store trying to get cash from people in exchange for a check. The people were described as a woman in her 40s and a man in his 20s, driving a gray Dodge Neon.

At 3:47 p.m., a resident reported someone yelling at kids at a school bus stop on Haverhill Street.

Friday, March 17 - At 9:25 a.m., a caller reported noticing a male in his late 20s leaving the Lowell Street Mobil with a child who was yelling, "I want to go back." The caller was nervous because of the child's behavior. When the officer spoke with the male, he said he was a babysitter and the child was upset because he wouldn't buy him a candy bar.

At 10:07 p.m., a resident reported what she thought was a rabid raccoon at her front door. An officer reported that he had to put the animal down and was returning it for testing.

Saturday, March 18 - At 11:58 a.m., an employee at the North Main Street Sunoco reported that a bicycle had been on the property for a couple of days. The bike

was taken to the police station.

At 2:07 p.m., a town employee reported that a boy threw a firecracker inside the library.

Sunday, March 19 - At 7:26 a.m., a resident at Aberdeen Apartments reported that four people with leaf blowers were cleaning the Dunkin' Donuts parking lot on North Main Street. An officer spoke with the subjects and they stopped working.

At 5:35 p.m., a resident reported that while out walking both the previous day and that day, someone threw ice at him and threatened to poke his eyes out.

Monday, March 20 - At 10:33 a.m., police received a report of drugs found on a student on River Road. An officer reported that he will be sending a substance out for testing.

AUTO INCIDENTS

Wednesday, March 15 - At 5:45 p.m., a resident reported that a license plate had been stolen from his truck in the past two days. Thursday, March 16 - At 7:25 p.m., an employee at the Greater Lawrence Technical School reported that another driver threatened her after cutting her off in traffic.

Friday, March 17 - At 2:09 a.m., a caller reported a male subject was trying to break the glass on a motor vehicle using a rock. The incident occurred outside Building 700 on Bullfinch Drive. An officer could not find the man.

At 7:30 a.m., a resident report-

While some act, others act as criminals

By Greta Cuyler

Nearly two dozen teenagers were the victims of a robbery during last Saturday's all-day drama festival at Andover High School.

Cash, iPods, headphones and memory cards were among the items reported stolen, according to police.

"It's a horrible thing, but we don't suspect anyone involved with the performance," said AHS Drama Director Susan Choquette.

Eight schools competed in the festival and each school was assigned a classroom for their belongings.

Parents were assigned to patrol the hallways, but kids must have slipped in unnoticed and taken the items, said Choquette.

No students from Andover High reported items stolen, she said. Choquette said the three schools reporting thefts were Joseph Case High School in Swansea, Minnechaugh Regional High School in Wilbraham, and Wilbraham and Monson Academy also in Wilbraham.

On a positive note, Andover High has made it to the state finals, which will be held in Boston March 30 and April 1. Andover is now one of 15 schools remaining from the original 100 competing.

The two robbery suspects are described as high school age females, between 5'5" and 5'7", wearing dark sweatshirts and jeans, according to a police report. The case is still under investigation.

ed that his brother's vehicle was broken into overnight at the Riverview Commons maintenance shop.

At 3:59 p.m., a resident reported that someone shot out the rear window of his vehicle with a BB gun.

Saturday, March 18 - At 7:37 a.m., a resident reported that someone smashed his car windshield overnight.

Monday, March 20 - At 8:38 a.m., a resident reported that his vehicle was broken into overnight.

At 2:35 p.m., police received a report of a motor vehicle break-in and a stolen stereo.

At 4:52 p.m., a resident reported that her son just stole her car. An officer located the vehicle, which was unoccupied.

AUTO ACCIDENTS

Monday, March 20 - At 10:58 a.m., there was a report of a crash with injuries on Park Street.

THEFTS

Thursday, March 16 - At 1:55 p.m., a resident reported that two credit cards and some medication were stolen.

Saturday, March 18 - At 3:11 a.m., an officer reporting seeing a blue minivan leaving the Sunoco station on North Main Street near the area of a vending machine. An officer checked and confirmed the vending machine had been broken into and it appeared that money had been taken. Officers stopped the suspect vehicle on South Broadway in Lawrence but the two males checked out. The incident is still under investigation.

At 3:49 a.m., an officer reported the soda vending machine at Market Basket in Shawsheen Square was also hit.

At 10:42 a.m., a resident reported property missing from the home after 70 kids came to the house following an Andover High School basketball game.

Monday, March 20 - At 3:33 p.m., a walk-in reported having a cell phone and iPod stolen at Phillips Academy the previous Thursday.

At 4:23 p.m., a resident reported his son's bike was stolen while his son was inside King's Subs.

BREAKS

Wednesday, March 15 - At 10:42 a.m., police received a report of an overnight break-in at a storage building on Lowell Junction Road.

At 3:03 p.m., police received a report of a truck break-in at the Dascomb Road Park and Ride.

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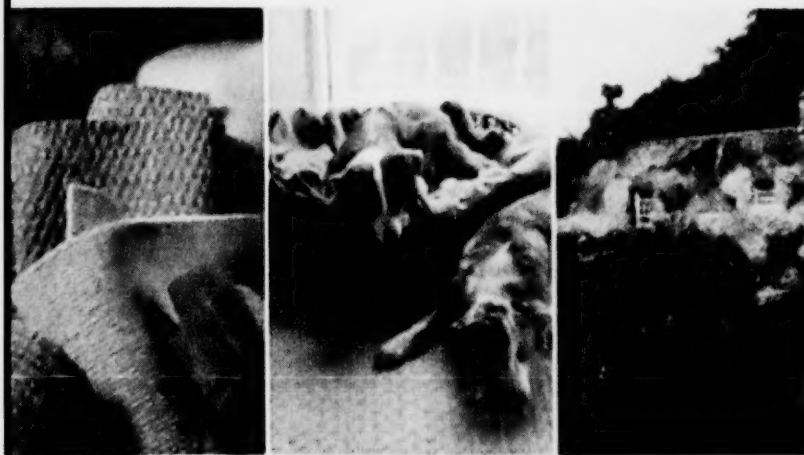
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2 vie for Tech School post

Silverman challenges Hamilton

By Greta Cuyler

Next week incumbent Ken Hamilton will square off against former Selectman Jerry Silverman for the role of representative to the Greater Lawrence Technical School District.

Both candidates say a top priority is replacing Superintendent Frank Vacirca, who will retire at the end of the school year.

Hamilton is looking for a budget-savvy superintendent, a quality he appreciates in Vacirca.

"I think it's most important for a superintendent to be able to stretch a dollar and manage with the budget," he said. "All schools are having financially difficult times."

Between 2004 and 2005, the school's budget increased less than one percent, with administration costs just four percent of the total budget.

Silverman is looking for a replacement with proven success working with faculty and staff. "Besides certification and qualifications, I think (we need) someone who has been in the field and likes kids, who has a personality and

really gets along with people," he said.

Silverman has worked in education for 50 years, as a social studies teacher, an assistant principal and as a principal.

Hamilton is a manager with the Department of Transitional Assistance and has more than 20 years experience managing unions and people.

In addition to the superintendent's retirement, the head of guidance and the school's legal counsel will both leave at the end of the school year, said Hamilton, adding to the need for a smooth transition into next year.

Silverman would like to see more Andover students take advantage of a hands-on technical education that the school offers.

Hamilton said Silverman is well qualified for the position, but is also involved in several other initiatives in the town.

"This is what I do," said Hamilton. "I think people deserve someone who's only focused on the school."

Hess wants discussion

MEMORIAL

Continued from page 1

where people could look at it and learn from it, even if it means a delay in construction.

"We've gone for 30 years, I think we could go for a few more months," Hess said.

Doherty and Ted Whitman, commander of American Legion Post 8 in Andover, came up with the monument's design, which is similar to most other Vietnam memorials around the country.

The monument will be located under the trees, without a flagpole or lights and will be constructed with the same blue-gray granite as the World War II memorial.

No taxpayer money will be used to build the monument. Doherty plans to pay for the construction and

installation using money he inherited from his aunt.

The American Legion Post 8 plans to donate a granite bench, similar to the one in front of the World War II monument.

Doherty and Whitman solicited input from several groups in town, including the Patriotic Holiday Committee, the American Legion, Post 8 and the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 18 in Andover. They also conferred with local World War II and Korean veterans, he said.

Town Manager Buzz Staczynski said selectmen will likely discuss the monument at their meeting on March 27 or April 10.

Doherty said he needs approval from selectmen by early April to install the memorial by Memorial Day.

SELECTMEN'S RACE

Ted Teichert

AGE: 45
ADDRESS: 5 Dufton Road
OCCUPATION: Account manager for Hatfield Quality Meats; DJ
FAMILY: wife, Jeanne; children, Stephanie, 18; Julianne, 6; Allison, 3, Valerie, 3



Incumbent
Ted Teichert

Joseph Leone

AGE: 58
ADDRESS: 15 Apple Blossom Road
OCCUPATION: Retired federal agent
FAMILY: wife, Cheryl; sons Michael, 28; Christopher, 30.



Selectmen challenger
Joseph Leone

Brian Major

AGE: 40
ADDRESS: 11 Odyssey Way
OCCUPATION: Process Improvement Expert at Phillips Medical Systems
FAMILY: Wife, Margaret; children, Rachel, 8; Danielle, 5; Brendan, 3; Nicole, 3



Incumbent
Brian Major

1. Does the correct percentage of Andover taxpayers' money go to the school system currently? Why or why not? (100 words or fewer)

1. While I believe the amount of money going to the schools is correct, allocating the budget is not as simple as saying the schools should get "x" percentage. The town is obligated to pay fixed costs such as insurance, debt service and retirement. Two-thirds of the remaining funds go to the schools. In addition to the school budget, funds from the remaining town budget are also used to help fund school expenses. These include building maintenance, trash removal, lawn care, and school CIP projects. When additional state revenue becomes available we try to dedicate more money to the schools.

2. What must be done to make Andover a better place for retirees? (100 words)

To make Andover a better place for retirees we should have housing designed for their age group and have ample space for senior activities.

3. Do you support building a youth center behind Doherty Middle School? If not, why not? If so, what will you do to make it happen? (75 words or fewer)

I support a youth center behind Doherty Middle School. There are questions to be answered in the months ahead, however, before a final decision can be made on this location. One of the most important factors will be the traffic impact so a comprehensive traffic study will need to be done. I will continue to meet with the youth and the Andover Youth Foundation in support of this project.

4. Prioritize. If elected what must you accomplish during the next three years? (50 words or fewer)

In the next three years my top priority is to continue to work on providing the best possible services to the citizens of Andover and to all departments in the town while using fiscal constraint. Other projects will be the youth/community/senior center, Main Street project, and the I-93 interchange.

5. Personality question - Answer one of the following: What is the last movie that made you cry? Or... you need a laugh. What movie do you watch? (25 words)

For a laugh, lately *Beethoven*... my kids have been watching it daily.

1. Does the correct percentage of Andover taxpayers' money go to the school system currently? Why or why not? (100 words)

The current percentage of money going to the school system is appropriate. We must be watchful that the school percentage of the budget does not escalate any further. If the present trend continues, in the next three years the school budget could top \$75 million. My wife was a teacher for 30 years. Therefore, I know what a jewel we have in the Andover schools. Furthermore, my children are graduates of the Andover schools with outstanding results. As a 31-year resident, I would work on getting more Chapter 70 state funding and lottery aid to keep the percentage stable.

2. What must be done to make Andover a better place for retirees? (100 words max)

Stabilizing the yearly increase in the tax rate as well as building over 55 housing should be goals to keep Andover viable for retirees. The voters have twice turned down the senior center, but as the baby boomers reach retirement, and with Andover's substantial senior population, we must address this issue anew. The proposal to bring 231 units of over-55 housing, which is long overdue, is the first step in retaining retirees. We owe it to the Andover taxpayers, especially the seniors, to examine the town finances in order to make Andover an affordable place to live.

3. Do you support building a youth center behind Doherty Middle School? If not, why not? If so, what will you do to make it happen? (75 words)

Yes, I support a youth center behind the Doherty School. I would like to see this facility built and opened. The proposed youth center is in the same general area as the original senior center proposal. To gain further taxpayer support, another option would be a community center with separate youth and senior facilities. I would look into possible resources from the Wood Foundation, NESWC and endowment funds to make this center a reality.

4. Prioritize. If elected what must you accomplish during the next three years? (50 words)

1) I would like to introduce line item audits similar to zero budgeting, which would include quarterly checks and balances on expenditures.
2) The construction and completion of a youth/senior center.
3) Addressing and funding public safety staffing levels.
4) Groundbreaking for over-55 housing.
5) Reichhold property acquisition completed.

5. What is the last movie that made you cry? Or... You need a laugh. What movie do you watch? (25 words)

When I need a laugh *Grease* fits the bill. It personifies the innocent state of mind in the '50s and '60s despite the cold war.

1. Does the correct percentage of Andover taxpayers' money go to the school system currently? Why or why not? (100 words)

Yes. Currently 67 percent of taxpayer dollars support school operation, maintenance and safety. The money allocated in the Schools' budget represents salaries, expenses and operating costs. In addition, all school repairs and renovation are included in the Plant & Facilities budget and school snow removal, trash removal, water and sewer is included in the Department of Public Works budget. Indirectly, many other town departments support school operations as well (safety, tax collection, library, property assessments, roads, sidewalks and youth, community and elder services). To properly run our school system, it is important that these other functions are funded appropriately.

2. What must be done to make Andover a better place for retirees? (100 words)

(1) Keep Andover's taxes affordable by continuing to identify operational efficiencies. (2) Reject new fees (such as PAYT and trash fees) that put an unnecessary burden on people with lower or fixed incomes. (3) Increase the alternatives for lower priced, smaller-sized senior housing by passing the 55+ housing bylaw. (4) Support Elder Services programming that promotes healthy involvement and interaction.

3. Do you support building a youth center behind Doherty Middle School? If not, why not? If so, what will you do to make it happen? (75 words)

Absolutely. This youth center proposal makes perfect sense. Constructed adjacent to the existing senior center, Doherty Middle School, ball fields and the town offices, this plan creates a community center campus. This proposal is the most cost effective solution and ensures maximum utilization of the facility. I will work with the Andover Youth Foundation to rewrite their construction contract and will bring citizens together to make this vision a reality.

4. Prioritize. If elected what must you accomplish during the next three years? (50 words)

1) Balance Andover's service needs and requests with our ability to fund them.
2) Gain community agreement to construct the Cormier Family Youth Center behind the Doherty Middle School.
3) Rebuild our cash reserve accounts.
4) Create an approved Town Yard plan that identifies locations, timeline and capital needs for each operation.

5. What is the last movie that made you cry? Or... You need a laugh. What movie do you watch? (25 words)

Monty Python's *Life of Brian* - the funniest movie ever! *Holy Grail* and the *Meaning of Life* are pretty funny as well.

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National Public Health Week 2006 April 3rd - 7th

Public Health Evening Program - April 3rd, Andover Memorial Hall Library

Public Health Prevention Programs - April 4th-6th, Andover Town Offices - Health Department

Public Health Display and Information Table - April 3rd-7th, Andover Town Offices - Second Floor

MONDAY, APRIL 3rd

7:00 - 7:30 PM

The Fish Brook Initiative Final Report

A 20 minute overview of the threats to Fish Brook and our Town's public water supply system and the final results of the environmental study by the Fish Brook Initiative.

PRESENTER: Everett Penney - Former Director of the Andover Health Department

7:30 - 8:30 PM

"Combating Lyme Disease in Andover"

"Presentation will give an overview of Lyme disease, symptoms, testing, and treatment, the prevalence in Andover and measures to take for prevention.

PRESENTER: Umass Lowell Nursing Students and Dr. Anthony Turiano, Medical Consultant, Andover Health Department.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4th & THURSDAY, APRIL 6th

10:00 - 11:00 AM

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Hepatitis B (three dose series)

Pneumonia

Adult Tetanus and Pertussis - (New combination vaccine)

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5th

9:00 - 12:00 noon

Cholesterol and Glucose Screening

By Appointment Only

Call Health Department for appointment and cost at 978-623-8295

2:00 - 3:00 PM

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SCHOOL COMMITTEE RACE

Arthur
"Art" Barber

AGE: 55
ADDRESS: 3 Sparta Way
FAMILY: Wife, Connie; children, Lauren, 20; Leslie, 17
OCCUPATION: Owner of Queen City Mobil stations 2 and 3

Incumbent
Art BarberAnn
Weld

AGE: 42
ADDRESS: 5 Robandy Road
FAMILY: Husband, Bill; children, Bill, 11; Bobby, 9; Henry, 7
OCCUPATION: Mother

Schools
challenger
Ann WeldAnthony
"Tony" James

AGE: 64
ADDRESS: 15 Wethersfield Dr.
FAMILY: Wife, Connie; children, Chris, 19; Greg, 17
OCCUPATION: Retired (former chemical engineer)

Incumbent
Tony JamesRobert Coffill
(write-in candidate)

AGE: 49
ADDRESS: 7 Quail Run
FAMILY: Wife, Tricia; son, Michael, 19; step-children, Marissa, 28; Allison, 26
OCCUPATION: Executive VP of Operations, Orthosupply Management; Adjunct graduate professor, School of Education, Merrimack Education Collaborative and Fitchburg State College.

Write-in bid:
Bob Coffill

1. Do you support a Proposition 2½ override to add more to the school budget? Why or why not? (Keep answers to 125 words. To be fair to all candidates we will not allow more.)

No. I don't support a Proposition 2½ override to add more to the school budget. I recognize, as a trained educator, that we need to continuously improve our school system, but I also recognize, as an elected public servant and businessman, that we have limited revenues. We need to make sure that we require each one of the taxpayers' dollars. An override permanently adds to the tax base and Andover's property taxes have already increased 35 percent over the last five years. I'm concerned an override would create the perception among our citizens that the schools are on a never-ending quest. Instead, I favor working towards restoring state and federal aid, creating structural change in the budgetary process, and streamlining and prioritizing services.

2. What is the most significant single thing missing from our school system? (75 words or fewer.)

The most significant single thing missing from our school system is that all of our classes are not at or below the recommended midpoint size. Research has unequivocally shown that smaller class size is critical to an academic program's success. This is why we must focus our attention on this area, in conjunction with enhancing our math and science programs, so that our students can be prepared to compete not just nationally, but internationally.

3. Prioritize. If you had to cut one existing item from the current year's budget for next year what would it be and why? (50 words or fewer.)

If I had to prioritize and cut one existing item from the current year's budget, it would be fees. It's a matter of public record that I strongly advocate reducing and eliminating fees. Parents are overburdened, there are administrative costs related to fee collections and fees represent a non-deductible tax.

4. Please choose one of the personality questions below to answer (25 words):
You need a laugh. What movie do you watch?

OR

What is the last movie that made you cry?

A soon-to-be movie, I watched Jason MacElwain, an autistic youth, sink 3-pointers for his high-school basketball team. That's what it's all about!

1. Do you support a Proposition 2½ override to add more to the school budget? Why or why not? (Keep answers to 125 words. To be fair to all candidates we will not allow more.)

At this stage in budget planning, I do not believe it is prudent for the School Committee to recommend an override to add more to the school budget. Based on previous experience, an override is an extremely difficult measure to pass for school operating budget expenses alone. To proceed alone without a town and school budget override will only continue to foster the town vs. school atmosphere. An override should only be considered a last ditch measure and only if the Selectmen and School Committee were in agreement that this effort was required for the overall town budget. The same budget constraints (rising health insurance costs, fuel and heating costs and decreasing state aid) are severely impacting the town and school budgets alike.

2. What is the most significant single thing missing from our school system? (75 words or fewer.)

The challenging budget scenario presents challenges at each level of our schools. The space needs and crowding at the High School concern me as well as the precarious budget situation of the clubs. At the middle school level, there are demonstrated needs for additional guidance counseling and maintaining health education. Of course the threat of losing teachers and the impact on class size at the elementary level and district wide is a great concern.

3. Prioritize. If you had to cut one existing item from the current year's budget for next year what would it be and why? (50 words or fewer.)

During this budget crisis, we need to closely examine every single budget line item and evaluate the expense based on educational need. I would not cut one entire item from this year's school budget, however, I do feel there are opportunities for cost savings within the food service and professional development budget areas.

4. Please choose one of the personality questions below to answer (25 words):
You need a laugh. What movie do you watch?

OR

What is the last movie that made you cry?

The most recent movie I saw with my kids that made me cry was *Eight Below*. For a laugh — you have to go with *Caddyshack*.

Townsmen questions

Each year the *Townsmen* puts out a few serious questions and one "personality" question to candidates for office. These questions, and selectmen and School Committee candidates' written answers, can be seen on these facing pages.

Answers that went above the word limit specified were edited.

1. Do you support a Proposition 2½ override to add more to the school budget? Why or why not? (Keep answers to 125 words. To be fair to all candidates we will not allow more.)

Overrides should only be used as a last resort, after every other option has been fully examined. Our town leaders need to confront the structural problem faced by Andover, and most suburban communities in the Commonwealth — our revenues are insufficient to cover the cost of providing the range and level of services that citizens have come to expect. The choices are simple, and are for the community to decide — raise revenues, via broad based fees, reduce costs to match revenues, while ensuring that we fund all of the essential town and school services, or, finally, promote an override to support town and school services. I believe that a combination of the first two options, plus reassessing budget model assumptions, will result in a balanced budget.

2. What is the most significant single thing missing from our school system? (75 words or fewer.)

We do not yet have a solution to the problems of overcrowding, growing enrollment and increasing class size at the High School. Our students continue to do well in standardized tests and are admitted to good colleges, but these could be in jeopardy if these problems persist. We should receive a report shortly which will include enrollment projections, and several options for alleviating the overcrowding and class size issues. We need to solve this problem.

3. Prioritize. If you had to cut one existing item from the current year's budget for next year what would it be and why? (50 words or fewer.)

I would recommend reducing the substitute teacher budget. I believe this could be done via a thorough review of the process used to determine when to call in substitutes, and who is responsible for making that determination.

4. Please choose one of the personality questions below to answer (25 words):
You need a laugh. What movie do you watch?

OR

What is the last movie that made you cry?

Secondhand Lions — the unlikely combination of Michael Caine, Robert Duvall and Haley Joel Osment is priceless, and results in a very funny movie.

1. Do you support a Proposition 2½ override to add more to the school budget? Why or why not? (Keep answers to 125 words. To be fair to all candidates we will not allow more.)

I have been consistent: No override!

In my experience as a superintendent and after spending two years evaluating every expenditure in Andover's school budget, there is plenty allocated to our schools to eliminate all fees for students, and there is no need to cut elementary teaching positions or threaten other educational cuts. A year ago I addressed a townwide PTO and showed how to save over \$2.5 million in current expenses and put the money towards student needs. We need someone on the School Committee who would put students and taxpayers first, not special interest groups. The town gave the schools \$760,000 more than it had to and this committee wants more. Enough is enough! It is time for fiscal responsibility; Andover needs a change.

2. What is the most significant single thing missing from our school system? (75 words or fewer.)

The school system lacks fiscal discipline and creative solutions to address educational issues. Every issue the school system faces the first thing the taxpayer hears is the need for more money! There is a need for an accurate budget, figures and getting cuts under control. Examples would be special education, consultants to do a feasibility study, negotiating union contracts in the interest of adults and not assessing the needs of students learning time.

3. Prioritize. If you had to cut one existing item from the current year's budget for next year what would it be and why? (50 words or fewer.)

I would not replace the food service director at \$80,000 as the current School Committee wants to do. That is more than many more teachers make a year. I would assign the position to the business administrator. I'm impressed with our principals; they need the money more than superintendent's office.

4. Please choose one of the personality questions below to answer (25 words):
You need a laugh. What movie do you watch?

OR

What is the last movie that made you cry?

Glory Road made me cry. I loved that the underdog basketball team Texas Western beat Kentucky. It reminds us there is hope for all students.

Residents can vote for town seats at Andover High School on Tuesday

ELECTION

Continued from page 1

Andover Senior Center to AHS every 35 minutes from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., stopping at Town Offices, the Railroad Street apartments and Frye Circle along the way.

Another contested race is for Greater Lawrence Regional Vocation Technical School District representative, a three-year position sought by incumbent Kenneth Hamilton and former selectman Jerry Silverman.

Jim Doherty is running unopposed for moderator for one year, and will continue to preside over Town Meeting, while political newcomer Dan Grams is the only candidate for Andover Housing Authority. There are also five Trustees of Pynchard Free School posi-

tions on the ballot.

School Committee

Art Barber, whose daughters have both attended the Andover public schools, has served one term on the School Committee. He holds both a doctorate and master's degree in education from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he also served as the director of administrative affairs for the School of Education, he said. He currently owns two Queen City Mobil gas stations.

Tony James, a retired chemical engineer who has served a term on the School Committee, has a son who recently graduated from Andover High School and another who is currently enrolled there. He retired four years ago

from Cabot Corp., a specialty chemical manufacturer, where he spent his entire career and became vice president.

Ann Weld, former co-president of the Bancroft PTO, moved to Andover five years ago from Duxbury. In Duxbury, she served three years of a five-year term on the Duxbury Planning Board, said the assistant town clerk. She was voted onto the School Committee but could not serve her entire three-year term because her husband was transferred, Weld said. Weld said she was a regional planner and a town planner before having her children. She currently stays at home to raise her young children, who attend the public schools.

Write-in candidate Robert Coffill has held 10 positions as a school leader, head of school or superintendent in the

past 15 years. He tried to start an online private school in 2004, but it is no longer operating. He said he is now the vice president of operations for the health-care company Orthosupply Management, and teaches part-time graduate classes in school administration through the adjunct program at Fitchburg State College.

Board of Selectmen

Selectmen incumbents Brian Major and Ted Teichert will be challenged by 31-year Andover resident Joseph Leone.

Leone became a secret service agent for six years in Boston after his service in the Vietnam War, for which he received a Bronze Star for valor. He then became a special agent for the

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms before finishing his career as a special agent in charge of security in industry with the Department of Commerce.

Major is running for his fourth term on the Board of Selectmen. He has served on the board since 1997. Major moved to Andover in 1992 because his wife, Margaret, grew up here. He currently works in town as a process improvement expert for Philips Medical Systems.

Ted Teichert seeks a third term on the Board of Selectmen, having served since 2000. Along with his involvement in the Andover Junior Football League, this father of four girls works as an account manager for Hatfield Quality Meats, and as a disc jockey on the side.

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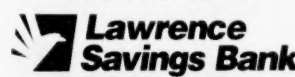
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BOOK REVIEW

Henry and Ribsy

BY BEVERLY CLEARY

Reviewed by John Chartier and James Caron

This book, a series of short stories, is a natural for any dog-lover, or anyone who likes reading about adventures, or what happens when kids get into trouble.

HENRY AND RIBSY is one of our favorite children's novels because it examines the bonds of friendship and what can happen when mischief, a boy, and his dog are set loose. It is the well-written story of a boy and his dog, and the adventures they have just going through everyday life.



Ribsy spent much of his life as a stray until he met Henry Huggins, a boy from a kind family that took the dog in. Since the Huggins family took Ribsy in, he and Henry have been an inseparable duo.

Unfortunately, Ribsy can't keep himself from digging up lawns, chasing cats, and just flat-out trouble-making.

Henry's dad promises him that if he can keep Ribsy under control, he will take him on a fishing trip. Henry anxiously awaits the opportunity to go fishing with his dad, but is unsure if he can make Ribsy comply long enough to satisfy his dad!

The most exciting part is the book's ending – but we don't like to spoil books for the reader, so you will just have to read and find out for yourself.

Henry and Ribsy is really a collection of short stories about Henry and his dog. Most are humorous or suspenseful, but all make the reader love Henry and Ribsy more and more. They are truly lovable characters who every reader can identify with and relate to.

We recommend this book to all young readers. It is one of our favorite bedtime stories and is appropriate for all ages. This is only one book in the series by Beverly Cleary, who has written many children's books during the past few decades. Henry, Ribsy and other characters from this book appear in her other novels as well, even if just for a few cameo appearances.

We give this book a nine out of 10. Anyone with a fondness for animals – dogs in particular – will find this book very entertaining.

If you haven't read any Beverly Cleary books in the past (or even if you have), we recommend you take a look at this one.

So take your dog for a walk down to your local bookstore and pick up a copy of *Henry and Ribsy* by Beverly Cleary today.

Even if you don't have a dog, try reading the book anyway – you never know what might follow you home!

ON CAMPUS

The following Andover students have been named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Connecticut College in New London, Conn.:

Nicholas B. Culver, class of 2006, dean's honors.

Caitlin M. Delaney, class of 2009, dean's high honors.

Alyson R. Gerber, class of 2006, dean's honors.

David S. Kaplan, class of 2007, dean's high honors.

Julia J. Kwolyk, class of 2007, dean's honors.

Carolyn M. Sebasky, class of 2009, dean's honors.

Jesse O. Szafarz, class of 2007, dean's honors.

Dean's honors recognize students who have received a grade-point average of 3.3-3.69, and dean's high honors recognize students who have achieved 3.70-4.0.

□□□

Merrimack College in North Andover recently announced those students named to the college's fall president's list and dean's list.

To be named to the president's list, a student must achieve a 4.0 grade-point average, based on a 4.0 grading system.

Dean's list students must achieve a minimum 3.25 grade-point average.

The following Andover students are named to the dean's list: **Paul D'Ambrosio**, **Andrea Faris**, **Tara Hancock**, **Michael Malaguti**, **Kelly McLaughlin**, **Jessica Neal**, **Katherine Seero**, **Ryan Shepard** and **Carter White**.

A less-than-perfect test

As colleges are sending out decision letters, 10 Andover seniors – 7 at Phillips Academy, 3 at Andover High – received botched SAT scores

By Brian Davidson

TEN TEENAGERS WHO go to school in Andover are among those whose SAT results were reported inaccurately to colleges.

Two weeks ago the College Board, the owner of the SAT, announced that it had improperly corrected a portion of the October-issued SATs.

The error negatively affected the scores of about 4,000 of the 500,000 high school students who took the test, including the 10 in town.

"The College Board has deservedly been taking a lot of heat for this," said John Anderson, director of college counseling at Phillips Academy, where seven seniors learned that they – and any colleges they'd applied to – had received mistakenly low SAT scores due to a scanning error. "We're fortunate that our group was pretty small."

Andover High School was even more fortunate, according to Aixa de Kelly, AHS program adviser. Only three AHS students receiving botched scores.

"It didn't affect their admissions," de Kelley said of the three, who all got in to the colleges of their choice. "In regards to us, it had a minimal effect."

Anderson hopes he'll be able to say the same for the Phillips students who were shortchanged by the College Board's blunder.

"We don't yet know the effect it will have," he said, "because the decisions are just starting to come in."

Anderson indicated that most of the mistakes he saw were "very small," although one Phillips student's SAT score went up 120 points after being rescored, he said, meaning that 12 of the student's correct answers were marked wrong.

Such a high number of mistakes on a single 2,400-point test were rare, the College Board claims.

"We only reported increases in score, and most were relatively modest," said Brian O'Reilly, executive director of SAT information services. "Of all scores re-reported, 83 percent showed an increase of 40 points or fewer. That kind of change shouldn't make a difference for admissions purposes."

Jorge Hernandez, the director for freshman admission at Merrimack College, confirms that most of the revised scores were inconsequential.

This year, Merrimack mailed out 2,500 acceptance letters, the last of which were sent on March 13, a week after the college was informed that 24 of its applicants had scored higher on the SATs than was originally reported.

"There are many factors that go into the decision-making process," Hernandez said. "SATs

are just one of them. Even though the College Board advised us that they made an error, we rechecked the files of those affected and confirmed that our decisions were sound and fair. In terms of whether or not a student could have been affected? Yes, of course they could've been. But in terms of our school, they weren't."

Anderson said all 4,000 students whose scores came back undeservingly low could have been spared any consequences, had the College Board announced the mistake when they first knew about it.

"The College Board knew about this as early as December," Anderson said. "But they didn't do anything until now, which is the heart of the decision-making period. It would've been a lot cleaner if they had acknowledged it sooner and sent revised scores out in a timely fashion. Why they sat on this information for three months is beyond me."

O'Reilly said that at the end of December, two students separately requested a routine service called "score verification," when a person hand-scores the test to compare the result to the machine-scanned score.

Although it's not unusual that a mistake be found, O'Reilly said, there is typically a reasonable explanation for the error, such as a lack of thorough eras-

ing by the student, or a half-filled in answer bubble.

"In this case there was nothing about the appearance of the score sheet that would indicate why the human scoring was different," he explained. "The time-consuming part was determining what the problem was, and exactly what score sheets it affected so we could determine just what answer sheets needed to be rescored."

After double-checking the answer sheets from all of the SATs administered last spring, as well as this October, November, December, and January, the College Board determined that while the answer sheets in question were all from the October SAT, they were not isolated to a single scanning machine, nor were they particular to the first or last 4,000 sheets to be scored.

"It was very random," said O'Neil. "Which made things even more difficult for us. But what we think happened is that some of the answer sheets – I don't know if this happened in shipping or in storage – were exposed to high humidity, because a number of the sheets showed excessive levels of moisture."

O'Neil said the moisture could have caused the sheets to expand, so that the answer bubbles may have shifted enough for

Continued on page 7

DANCE, DANCE REVOLUTION



The Andover High Dance Club presents "The Beat Goes On," its annual performance, next Friday, March 31 at 7:30 p.m. in the Collins Center. All dances are student-choreographed, ranging in style from hip-hop to Indian folk dance to tap and ballet. Tickets are \$5 each and will be sold at the door. The public is invited to the event.

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One-time scoring problem

■ COLLEGE BOARD

Continued from page 6

the scanning machine to miss them.

Whatever the cause, the College Board is accepting responsibility for the error, notifying students who were affected by e-mail, and informing their high schools and potential colleges of their revised scores.

They are also refunding

those students' registration fees, as well as any costs associated with having their scores from the October test sent to schools.

"We very much regret any further worry or inconveniences that this problem may have caused students and families," the College Board stated on its Web site.

"This scoring anomaly was a one-time problem."

LUNCH MENUS

Here's what's for lunch in the Andover public schools next week, March 27-31:

Elementary schools

Monday: Mac and cheese with green beans, pancakes with ham sticks, chicken McSchool with fries, chicken teriyaki wrap, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Meatball sub with carrots, pizza stick with soft pretzel, chicken nuggets with fries and green beans, "gogurt," fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: Pizza ring, spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread, nachos with seasoned beef and cheese, bagels and string, fruit, veggie and milk.

Thursday: Chicken parm sub with pasta salad, french toast with sausages, hot dog with fries, d'animals day, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: Spanish wrap with salsa, chicken nuggets with mashed potatoes, pizza, boxed breakfast, corn, fruit, veggie, milk, carrot cake and lucky tray.

Middle schools

Monday: Rib-b-ques with potatoes and green beans, stuffed crust pizza, chicken McSchool, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Two beefy burritos, two bagel pizzas, toasted cheese sandwich with soup, fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: Baked meatloaf with potatoes and carrots, stuffed crust pizza, french toast with sausages, fruit, veggie and

milk.

Thursday: Rotini and meatballs, bakery pizza, two hot dogs with fries, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: BBQ chicken with potatoes and corn, stuffed crust pizza, tuna sub with pasta salad and chips, fruit, veggie and milk.

Andover High School

Monday: Oven-baked chicken with potatoes and carrots, stuffed crust pizza, baked mac and cheese with garlic bread, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Beef-and-cheese sub, stuffed crust pizza, spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread, fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: Chicken pot pie, stuffed crust pizza, chicken parm sandwich, fruit, veggie and milk.

Thursday: Breakfast sandwich with Tater Tots, stuffed crust pizza, chicken, broccoli and rotini, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: Baked meatloaf with potatoes and peas, stuffed crust pizza, meatball sub, fruit, veggie and milk.

□□□

Premium lunch choices are served daily at the middle schools and Andover High. AHS also offers a Courtyard Barbecue featuring grilled food; the Collins Center Café; Pastabilities; and a Market Basket cart with other food choices daily.

For prices or other information about lunches, call Karen Pappa, food services director, at 978-623-8622.

A LITTLE FRIENDLY COMPETITION



COURTESY PHOTO

Wood Hill Middle School students participate in the Greater Lawrence Academic Bowl. Middle schools in the Merrimack Valley have paired up for 20 years with schools in surrounding communities to enjoy friendly academic competitions. This year, Wood Hill is paired with the South Lawrence East School in Lawrence. A parent evening with awards, activities and raffles will be held Tuesday, April 25. Parents will have the opportunity to "sit in their child's shoes" and participate in a sample buzzer round. For more information about the Academic Bowl, see this week's special advertising section, all about KIDS.

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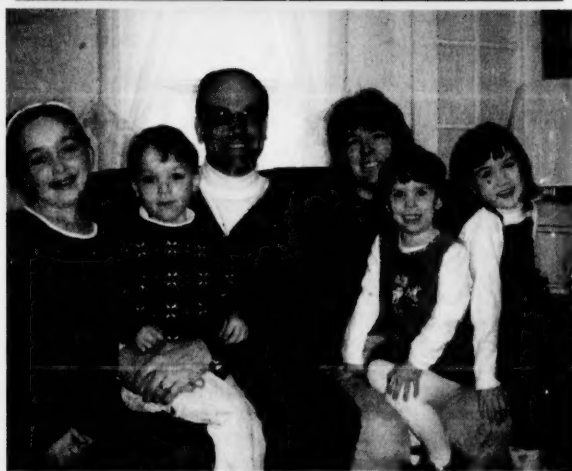
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Opinion

Share ramp rewards, traffic

A new Interstate-93 interchange into the Ballardvale area of Andover will bring with it plenty of opportunity. It will unlock land that could not be used. But just as Andover and surrounding towns will share in the benefits, they must also share in the side effects – particularly traffic. Andover should not bear the bulk of the burden. Yet, it's possible that some of the nine potential plans for the interchange could place most of the traffic into Andover, indicates Chris Huntress, a landscape architect and member of Andover's new I-93 Interchange Committee. It is crucial that town, regional and state officials ensure that one town is not unreasonably affected.

Selectman Alex Vispoli has called the interchange the most important project for Andover in the last 50 years. Having additional tax revenues from new and expanded businesses will aid both Andover and Tewksbury. But the traffic plan is important, particularly since the project was sold as a way to reduce traffic on side streets.

Decades ago, Andover leaders' decision to create business and industrial zones on the land around Interstate 93 and Route 495 set up Andover for success. Andover has been able to afford many more services because of the additional tax revenue brought in by these businesses. In addition, proper planning has helped keep business traffic out of most residential areas. If Andover, regional and state officials ensure that traffic will not swarm side streets, these new ramps could be another accomplishment that will help carry Andover forward as a premier community.

Web question

Memorial for Memorial Day?

Last week's *Andover Townsman* Web-site question was: Which of the following do you believe will have the largest effect on making things safer for kids using the Internet?

36 people voted.

- No one said, "Ban online communities."
- 5 people, or 14 percent, said, "Teach children about the potential dangers of the Internet in schools."
- 23 people, or 64 percent, said "Increase parental supervision of children's Internet activities at home."
- 3 people, or 8 percent, said "Increase law enforcement supervision of the Internet activities of known sex offenders."
- 4 people, or 11 percent, said "Realistically, there is nothing we can do. The problem is out of control."

- 1 person, or 3 percent, said "Other."

This week's *Andover Townsman* Web-site question is: **Should the town allow a Vietnam veterans memorial to be built in the Park in time for a Memorial Day unveiling?**

- Yes. It's long past time that Andover did this. The current shared plaque for Vietnam and Korean veterans is insufficient.
- Yes, for another reason.
- The town should build one, there's no reason it has to be up by Memorial Day. Selectman John Hess is right that there needs to be more discussion.
- No. The Park is the wrong place.
- No, for another reason.

To vote, surf to www.andovertownsman.com.

LETTERS POLICY

THE *Townsman* accepts letters to the editor from the community. Letters must be typed and no longer than two, double-spaced pages. All letter writers must include addresses and phone numbers with their letters. The phone numbers will not be published.

The paper reserves the right to edit letters at its discretion. Reasons for editing include editing for length, clarity and style.

Letters should be received by the *Townsman* by Monday at 5 p.m. for consideration in that week's paper. They may be sent by mail, fax or e-mail. Letters sent by e-mail should be sent to Neil Fater at nfater@andovertownsman.com, and included in the body of an e-mail, not as e-mail attachments.

As a general rule, the paper does not publish anonymous letters or thank-you letters.

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ME AND MY SHADOW



PHOTO BY HEATHER MANCINI

With winter officially over, Ed Powers, 9, of Andover, began his own spring training in the Park on Tuesday.

LETTERS

Saving trees: Answer may be under foot

Editor, *Townsman*:

I was deeply saddened to see how bare the stretch of Central Street between Main Street and the train overpass has become. So many trees have been taken down. I am especially troubled by the fact that six trees were cut down in the yard of Fred and Betty Fitzgerald, our former neighbors, who have lived in Andover all their lives. Their front yard is very small, and it looks like every tree that was in it was cut down. All that remains are six ugly stumps. I understand that the town had the right to remove those trees by eminent domain, since they were all within 25 feet of the street, but 25 feet is about all the Fitzgeralds have for a front yard. I find it very difficult to imagine that all six trees were a menace to the power lines that parallel the street.

Where is the oversight that guarantees that residents without a voice will not lose their trees? And why haven't options like burying some of the electric lines been explored? We are losing an irreplaceable part of our natural history with this large-scale harvest. Trees do matter.

Beth Schwartz
36 Ballardvale Road

BUDGET PLEAS

Teachers union head: 'Good enough' is, in fact, not

Editor, *Townsman*:

The school budget proposed by Superintendent Claudia Bach is the product of input from the entire Andover public school community – parents, teachers, school staff and administrators. Now it is up to our entire town to get behind this budget and make it a reality.

Every Andover resident has a stake in our schools. Of course, our students and their families expect programs and courses that will prepare our graduates for success in a knowledge-based economy. But even those who have no children or grandchildren in our schools benefit from an excellent system. The direct connection between property values and school quality has long been established, but a thriving school system also enhances a town's quality of life by providing winning athletic teams, by creating wonderful drama presentations and award-winning short films and by producing high quality cable television programs. The schools nurture the generations that sustain a town, neighborhood by neighborhood.

Bach's budget seeks to restore cuts to vital programs and personnel in such areas as foreign language instruction, music and physical education. It seeks to advance the aims of the Five-Year Plan for Rebuilding and Advancing Andover Schools in the face of increased enrollments and the continuing demands of state and federal mandates.

"But why spend more?" some might argue. "Andover schools are doing fine." Indeed, they would have a point. Andover schools are doing fine – better than fine, in fact. Our schools have been designated "Outperformers" by Standard and Poor and received a "Gold Medal Designa-

tion" by *Expansion Management Magazine*. Four of our elementary schools rank among the 100 best in the Boston area, according to *Boston Magazine*, and Andover High School was among 11 schools statewide to receive the 2005 Vanguard Model Award from Mass Insight. In addition, Andover High School was one of 12 schools statewide to receive the Commonwealth Compass School Award from the Massachusetts Department of Education.

The simple fact is that we will not be able to maintain the high quality of our schools without adequate support. A case in point: Bach's budget will prevent unacceptable increases in class size at the elementary level, where research has shown that small classes are particularly effective and their benefits long lasting. Her budget also recognizes the simple fact that "good enough" is not good enough for Andover.

Our town needs great schools, deserves great schools – and can afford great schools. Statewide, Andover ranks 25th in per capita income and 14th in property values. Yet, despite our affluence, we are barely above the state average in per pupil spending, and only 45.7 percent of our budget goes to education (compared to Newton, which spends approximately 50 percent on its schools; Wellesley, which spends approximately 58 percent; and Lexington, which spends approximately 61 percent).

Education is an investment in the future – for all of us. Andover Public Schools need and deserve the support of all of us.

Tom Meyers
President
Andover Education Association

Do not cut town jewel of Memorial Hall Library

Editor, *Townsman*:

To Ted Teichert, selectmen chairman, and Joanne Marden, Finance Committee chairwoman:

My name is Ron Sanfield and I have been an Andover resident for 20 years. My family and I have considered the Memorial Hall Library to be one of the true treasures of living in this town. For that reason, I joined the Friends of the Library, to help give something back to this library that is the cultural center of our home town. I welcome the opportunity to present this letter on behalf of the Friends of the Library as signed below.

Memorial Hall Library is literally and figuratively at the center of the town's informational, cultural and reading activities. For years, it has been known as the outstanding public library in Northeast Massachusetts. This success has been achieved even with strong pressures to keep costs down during recent years. During the four years from FY 2002-06, the library budget has increased a total of less than 1 percent. The library has managed to increase services without increasing costs; this is a tribute to our fine director, Jim Sutton, and his terrific staff. They are highly

trained and motivated, and aggressively keep our library at the cutting edge of high technology. All of this results in a bustling center of books, videos, lectures, special presentations, art exhibits, historical exhibits, and townspeople of all ages doing research, discovering and learning in a welcoming environment on any day of the week. This has inspired the help of volunteers who worked more than 8,400 hours in 2005.

The Friends of the Library believe this outstanding level of service will simply not be maintained if there is any budget reduction at this time. We are well aware of the challenges facing all of the town departments this year – the newspapers have been filled with justified expressions of concern about the impact of cuts. These are not easy decisions. But we are here to remind you of how vital the library is to bringing people into downtown, which impacts the economic life of the town. Any reduction in hours, will affect that. In addition, the library has expanded its commitment to teens; while our discussions in Andover go on endlessly about financing a youth center, it is our library that has stepped up, created a Teen Room on the main floor in

October 2001 that has served more teens every year. As the parent of a 2005 Andover High School graduate who is now a college freshman, I can personally state that our town library has been a tremendous force in her education and in her life. The limitations of the AHS library and other school libraries have made our town library even more important to our young people.

We urge you to realize what is at stake here and to protect this important asset of Andover. We cannot afford to put ourselves in a situation where we cut learning materials, staff, hours of operation and the great spirit of enthusiasm and inquiry we have here. Costs have been held to a bare minimum for several years. We need to fully fund Memorial Hall Library.

Ronald Sanfield
10 Harding St.

(The letter was written in collaboration with Friends of the Library or Memorial Hall Library Trustees: Mary Jane Bausemer, president of Friends; Susan McKelliget, vice president of Friends; Carolyn Fantini; Mark Spencer; Rosemary Halloran; Larry Lamagna; Judith and William Reghitto; Fran O'Neil and Art Astbury.)

Unfair taxation

Editor, *Townsman*:

It is encouraging to see Superintendent Claudia Bach's budget proposal for the 2006-07 school year. For the past three years, the school department has been forced to make tough choices: cutting teaching positions, increasing class size, eliminating school clubs, etc. Included in this list is the assessment of school fees for school buses, athletics and parking. The fees are a form of double taxation to the parents of school-aged children.

As homeowners in Andover, we pay property taxes to fund the education of our children. Why are we expected to pay an additional fee for school-related services and activities? The town does not charge a second fee for other services, such as borrowing library books, police assistance, snow plowing, trash collection and senior services.

Most parents of two or three students at Andover High School can expect to pay between \$3,000 and \$5,000 in fees over four years of high school in Andover. We urge Bach and town officials to remove the school fees.

Leslie and Rich Trotta
2 Agawam Lane

LETTERS

AHS basketball makes winter melt

Editor, *Townsmen*:

The Andover High School basketball program once again helped us get through the winter blues by providing the community with four months of superb effort and altogether thrilling basketball. The programs run by boys coach Dave Fazio and girls coach Jim Tildsley are nothing short of outstanding.

The boys won the Merrimack Valley Conference this year, arguably the toughest conference in Massachusetts. Fazio, who is first and foremost a schoolteacher who Andover is most fortunate to have, had a group of young men who played their hearts out every night. Their achievements, abilities and names will long be remembered by the hoopheads in town.

Tildsley once again headed a group of young women who skills were only exceeded by what genuinely nice people they are, evidenced by the serious way they embrace their roles as role models to the younger girls of HoopTown and Church League. Win or lose (and not too often do they lose) they keep their composure and grace, and

always have a smile and a wave to the little ones. Both teams should be commended for what a positive effect they have on their school and their town, and their parents no doubt deserve more than a little credit as well.

Sports for me has evolved into a lifelong affair with the Boston Red Sox, followed by high school basketball. I like the Patriots when they win and barely give a hoot anymore about the Bruins and Celtics. The deal now is for the Sox to go into October (hopefully, deep into October) and then it's get through November until the Andover Warriors/Lady Warriors start in early December. They drop me off in spring training and it starts again. With a growing affection for girls softball on the side, who needs preening pros, bad attitudes, contract holdouts and such nonsense?

Give me the purity of high school basketball and the winter fly by with pleasure. Go Warriors, and congratulations on a terrific season.

Gerry Gustus
5 Fern Road

On custody of children, fathers should not be second-class citizens

Editor, *Townsmen*:

I take great interest in this concept of equality for parents with regard to children of divorce ("Resident pushes for fathers to have equal custody," *Townsmen*, March 16). As a single parent father who has been more than equally involved in raising my child, I have always been, to the legal system in this state, a second-hand citizen because of my gender. The archaic thinking of almost always favoring the mother in a child-custody case has seen its time and some new modern and more fair way of dealing with this difficult subject must be brought to the legislature. Other states, such as California, assume a more equal role of the parenting when dealing with this matter. Although the specific bill being brought to the Massachusetts legislature may not be perfect, it is the start of righting a long term wrong.

Attorney Phil Byers' general statement about co-parenting not working is just another simple bias of the system. I do agree with him that there are instances where co-parenting is not the best scenario, but there are many cases where it can and does work. A lot, of course, is dependent on the actual parents who, if they work together, can make it work. Unfortunately, in the eyes of the court, the mother has a lot of advantages and if she refuses to consider

co-parenting it is the father who has to prove to the court that he is an equal (and in some cases the "better") parent. Many factors need to go into deciding what is best for the children, such as the time a parent works, geography between parents, a parent's track record in being available for school and extra-curricular activities, etc. Most importantly is that as a child grows his or her needs change and the lives of the parents change, yet Massachusetts laws have no easy way to change the parenting situation if one parent refuses to change. Mediation is great when both parties are willing to do so; if not, then once again the non-custodial parent (in most cases the father) has to prove to the courts that circumstances have changed. What I find amazing about my personal case is that not once was my ability as a wonderful loving and available father ever questioned; and yet it took me over a year with a lot of legal costs to be able to have my son 45 percent of the time. Why? Because of the archaic thinking of the court system. Some form of

co-parenting bill would change that.

Finally, one note that was not included in your article pertains to something we all do not like to talk about, but unfortunately plays a role in these custody cases. That is money. Even though the child's welfare should come first, with a 50 percent co-parenting joint custody there tends to be much less money given to the parent that earns less. Just like we always hear about the deadbeat dads, there are many examples of custodial parents who would receive a lot less money if they co-parented and I am sure would not be happy with the situation.

It is time for fathers to stop being second hand citizens in this state. More importantly, it is time for all parents and for the state to put the children first. Finally, as a physician who unfortunately sees young people with young children die, I personally see it as criminal to not allow a child equal access to a loving, caring, responsible parent. That time can never be given back.

Richard E. Altman
8 Kirkland Drive

E-mail letters
to nfater@andovertownsman.com

Lawrence parade worth sharing

Editor, *Townsmen*:

This past Sunday I had a wonderful time marching in the St. Patrick's Day parade in Lawrence. The crowds were large and what made the event even more special were the Andover elected officials that joined in the festivities. Selectmen John Hess, Ted Teichert and Alex Vispoli, along with Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski, represented our town well in Lawrence's celebration. The

Andover Marching Band and many other participants from Andover also took part in the event.

I encourage more people from Andover to participate and watch the parade next year. There are more similarities than differences between the town of Andover and the city of Lawrence – and on St. Patrick's Day, everyone is a little Irish!

Barry Finegold
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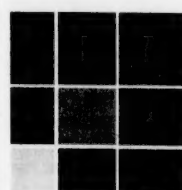
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TOWN TALK

TOWN TALK

Continued from page 1

Job vs. service

With state lawmakers considering an increase in minimum wage to \$7.75 per hour by Jan. 1, 2008, will seniors in a tax credit program see any increase in their "wages" from the town?

Through a property-tax-relief program called SCRIPTS, Andover seniors can work off \$600 in exchange for 100 hours of community service. That equals \$6 per hour.

Today's minimum wage is \$6.75, meaning that seniors in the tax program are already working for at least 75 cents less than most high schoolers.

So, does the town have any plans for an increase?

Town Assessor Bruce Symmes said last year Andover increased the tax discount from \$500 to \$600 and will likely do so again.

"It's something that can be looked at on a yearly basis," he said.

—Greta Cuyler

Seniors favor reduced costs

SENIORS TALK

Continued from page 1

McDonald doesn't see how the town can afford to pay for everything it wants.

"It's impossible, unless you go to overrides, which is then going to make the problem worse," he said. "They're forcing people like us out."

"I don't know how they think that the retirees in Andover could possibly bear the tax bills they want to have," said Shea.

Don Ellsworth, 75, said Andover is not the fiscally conservative New England town he moved to 50 years ago.

He points to the plowing, or what he calls "the over plowing" of the streets as an example of some of the things the town overdoes.

"We have a great school system, and I'm not degrading that at all, but we've replaced buildings that are relatively new," he said.

Andover offers a tax program where seniors can volunteer 100 hours and receive \$600 off their taxes. Shea works at the senior center to work off \$600 in residential taxes each year. The state also has a circuit breaker program to limit the amount of property tax a person has to pay.

Some seniors suggest additional tax discounts, such as one

Funds sought for relief

TAX COMMITTEE

Continued from page 1

including age limits, income guidelines, award limits and how often people may apply. Members will continue discussions at their next meeting, in May.

Applications are not yet being accepted and no money has been dispersed.

Residents are encouraged

to donate to the fund by using a check box on the annual excise tax bills and the quarterly property-tax bills.

The committee has expressed interest in acquiring funds left over from the town's 350th anniversary celebration in 1996.

Questions about the fund and the committee may be addressed to Reilly at 978-623-8249.



Adventurous women make history

March is Women's History Month. The Kid discovered some women who worked hard to build their communities or follow their dreams. Sometimes these women faced what seemed like impossible odds. Let's meet two of them.



Jeanne Baret

Jeanne Baret was the first woman to sail around the world.

Jeanne was an orphan in France in the 1700s.

She worked as a housekeeper for Dr. Philibert Commerson. He was a doctor who studied nature and plants. She learned Latin and helped him with his plant collection.

The King of France funded an around-the-world voyage under Captain Bougainville. Dr. Commerson was invited to join the trip to collect plant specimens.

Jeanne wanted to go along. However, girls were not allowed. She disguised herself as a boy to get a spot on the ship. She changed her name to Jean. We don't know if Commerson helped her with the ruse.

Once on board, she became Dr. Commerson's servant and assistant.

The first leg of the journey took the ships across the Atlantic Ocean. They stopped

in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The doctor and his assistant crept through jungles and walked through swamps searching for rare plants.

They found a beautiful flowering vine and gathered samples. It was named "bougainvillea" after the captain.

The ships then sailed around the tip of South America and into the Pacific. They landed in Tahiti.

The crew of the ship still hadn't guessed that Jean was really Jeanne, a girl. However, the Tahitians knew right away when they saw her.

After the Captain's initial shock, he met with Jeanne. He agreed that she could continue the voyage.

Some people believe that Jeanne and Dr. Commerson may have married.

In 1769 the two ships sailed back into France with plants and scientific information. The bougainvillea with its showy vines and colorful bracts still graces gardens in warmer climates around the world.

Jeanne had become the first female circumnavigator.

Mary Allerton

Mary Allerton was 15 years old in 1620. She was one of 101 Pilgrims who sailed on the Mayflower. After spending nine weeks on the ship she was happy to put her feet on the ground at Plymouth, Massachusetts.

It was winter and many of the Pilgrims, including her mother, would not live to see spring.

Mary was strong and survived. After a few years she married, had four children and helped make the Colony of New Plymouth into a settlement.

She lived long enough to see the founding of 12 of the 13 original American colonies.

Class activity

Search your newspaper for a story involving a woman in your community.

What did the woman do to get her name in the newspaper?

If you could do something to make a difference in your community, what would it be?

Memorable Match

Match these women with what they are known for:

Sasha Cohen
Mary Shelley
Georgia O'Keeffe
Emily Dickinson
Marie Curie
Carrie Underwood
Mary Cassatt
Rachel Carson
Amelia Earhart
Sally Ride
Sacagawea

American Poet
Pilot, first woman to fly solo across Atlantic
Guide for Lewis & Clark
Author of Frankenstein
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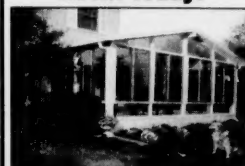


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Bob Burke
Kevin and Ellen Lynch

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Lucille Giannone
Dan Guillet
George (Joe) Spanos
Dave Fazio
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Matthew Burke
Robert Stabile
John Gangi
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Lincoln Clark
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Laurie Liffmann
John Dizoglio
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Karen Sawyer Faust
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Madeline Minahan
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Daniel Grams
John Formichella
Kim Baker
Elizabeth Wolf
Larry Larsen

Join us for election night results at the home of Kevin & Ellen Lynch – 46 Morton St., Andover 475-8697

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Ted Teichert, 46 Morton St., Andover, MA 01810

Townspeople

McLaughlin, Andover P.I.

Investigative work: Mundane bills and occasional thrills

By Greta Cuyler

PRIVATE EYE...

The words conjure up images of James Garner in *The Rockford Files*, the crusty but handsome private investigator who solved mysteries from his ramshackle trailer along California's Pacific Coast Highway.

Or Tom Selleck's *Magnum, P.I.*, the Hawaiian-shirted Don Juan whose charm captivated every woman on the island of Hawaii.

The reality, while not so romantic, is more professional.

Meet Chuck McLaughlin, a private investigator in Andover.

McLaughlin Investigative Group Inc. specializes in litigation, and McLaughlin works for lawyers, corporations and insurance companies.

In fact, the biggest misconception is that PIs focus on spying on people's husbands and wives, said McLaughlin. The truth is, Massachusetts is a no-fault divorce state, so adultery is usually not a factor in court.

But don't worry — detective work still can be sexy.

Take one of McLaughlin's recent cases. He was hired by an insurance company to investigate losses at a large home improvement store. It became clear to McLaughlin and his team that the thefts were an inside job. They tested the theory and McLaughlin went undercover into the store posing as a construction worker.

He asked the cashier if they could make a "deal." Sure enough, the employee rang in \$0.01 to the register, and gave McLaughlin \$200 worth of merchandise in exchange for \$100 cash, said McLaughlin. The employee pocketed the \$100.

That, he said, "landed the guy in jail." Operating out of an office at Dundee Park in Andover, McLaughlin might look like another business owner. He has bills and payroll like anyone else. Yet the job has its thrills.



Gentleman Pointing out Something (GPS) — Chuck McLaughlin, a private investigator, stakes out a case with lots of gadgets. He says his GPS unit saves him lots of time.

"You never know, when I come into the office, where I'll be at the end of the day," he said. "That part becomes addicting."

He has traveled to Europe on assignments, done security at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City and done security for the Boston Red Sox players, he said.

Part of McLaughlin's practice focuses on product liability and he has worked for big tobacco companies and others, he said.

According to him, his firm handles between 10 and 20 cases at any given time and a case can range from a few hours' time to two months'. He is a licensed private investigator in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

Gadgets? He's got 'em. Everything from a black cap with a hidden camera, to a camera inside a phony pager. He even has a thermal-imaging camera that can detect body

heat in the vicinity; it helps to identify intruders while doing security work in unit areas. He also has access to databases used by law enforcement, investigators and attorneys to locate and dig up information on people.

But let's be honest. McLaughlin googles like the rest of us.

There are limits to what McLaughlin said he will do. He will not, for example, take a case to find out everything about a person and hand over the research to a client. There must be a scope and reason for the research.

"You can find out almost anything and anyone if you know how to look," he said. "I don't know what (a client's) motive is: Do they want to commit fraud or commit a crime?"

McLaughlin has been a private investigator for 17 years, working out of Andover for the past year and a half.

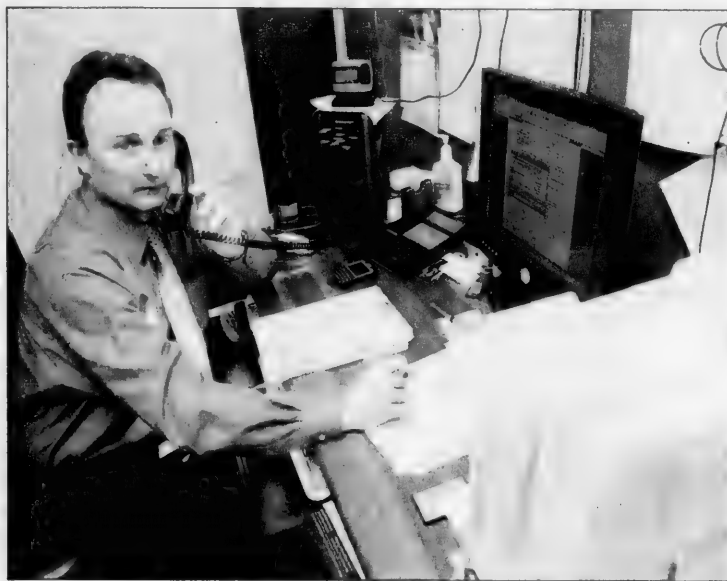
He relies on intuition in his work, but then backs it up with facts. In a recent case, he was hired by an Italian wine maker about to partner with a US importer. McLaughlin began investigating the prospective partner, and within three hours, discovered his record as a convicted felon, he said.

In another case, one that "didn't pass the smell test," McLaughlin was hired by a businessman looking to purchase another business. The deal was valued at \$1.5 million, but the buyer wanted to make sure everything was kosher before signing the papers. Turns out, one of the principals in the firm was a convicted sex offender.

Deal over.

"You never know... where I'll be at the end of the day."

PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR
CHUCK MCLAUGHLIN (AT LEFT)



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

In Like A Lion, Out Like a Lamb

BACK IN THE EARLY 1960s, I used to watch Shari Lewis and her sock puppet Lamb Chop on our black-and-white television. Shari, the master ventriloquist, magically made Lamb Chop come to life. Along with thousands of other young children, I believed the creature was real. Imagine my surprise when my mother grilled lamb chops one evening. I broke out into tears and refused to eat.



Terry Kay Bargar

"Crocodile tears," my mother would laugh (obviously another animal reference). No way, no how, was I going to wolf down that cute little TV lamb.

Eventually I grew up.

In the '90s my two children watched "Lamb Chop's Play Along" on color television. When serving lamb for dinner, I didn't call it lamb; "Little ribs," I'd say, or "Stew," generic names for meat that is anything but common. Eventually my daughters grew up. By then Lamb Chop was long forgotten, but lamb chops remained a dinner delight.

As the month of March roars to life then baaah-shfully gives way to warmer weather, my taste buds crave flavors forgotten over the winter months. Out with heavy, hearty fare and portions fit for a lion. In with healthy foods such as lamb and invigorating scents like lemony-minty thyme and woodland-reminiscent rosemary. Spring is the season of renewal. One taste of lamb, and ewe'll be hooked!

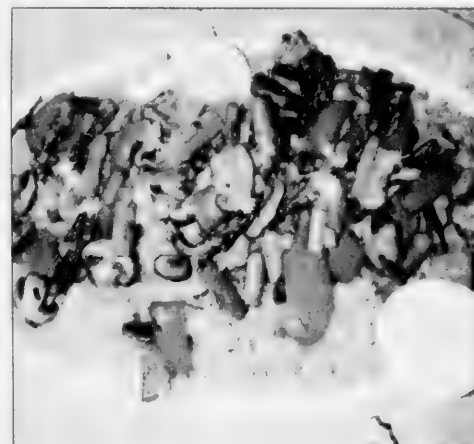
Springtime Traffic Light Lamb

Serves 4

I call this recipe "Traffic Light Lamb" because hues of red, yellow and green permeate the dish. Crisp "stop light" red bell peppers, sweet "slow down" yellow summer squash and bright "go" green asparagus play supporting roles to the star of the show, boneless lamb.

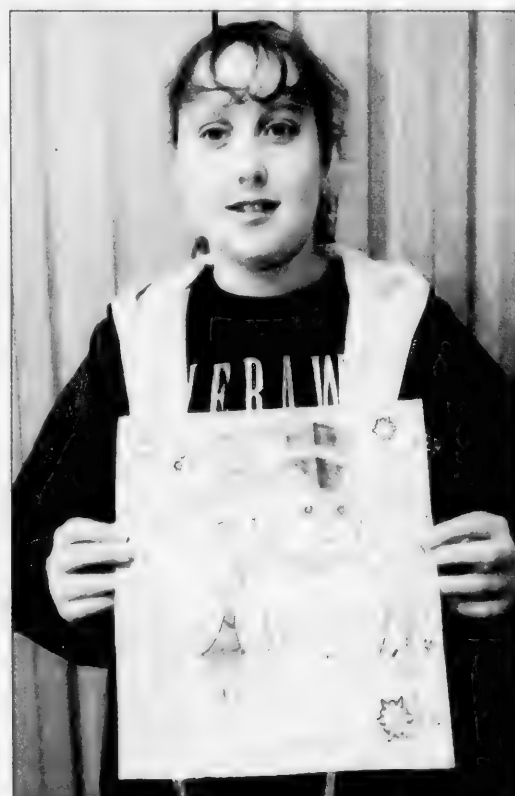
- 2 Tablespoons olive oil (for the marinade)
- One-half large shallot, minced
- 3 large cloves garlic, minced
- 1 pound lamb, trimmed and cut into 1-inch chunks
- 2 more Tablespoons olive oil (for the vegetables) (may substitute non-stick spray)
- 8 ounces white mushrooms (wiped clean, ends trimmed and sliced)
- 1 bunch asparagus, ends snapped and cut into 1" pieces
- 1 red bell pepper, cut into 1" chunks
- 2 small yellow summer squash, cut into 1" chunks

Continued on page 12



"Traffic Light Lamb" uses bright red, yellow and green foods to appeal to the eye as well as to the palate.

TOWNSMAN COLORING CONTEST WINNERS



Here are the three winners of the Andover Townsman's Winter Coloring Contest. Phillip Leblanc, 6, won the coloring contest for the 3- to 6-year-old age group. Montana Wilkie (middle photo), 7, won the coloring contest for the 7- to 9-year-old age group; and Andrea Pennock, 10, won the contest for the 10- to 12-year-old age group. The winners each received a gift certificate to Learning Express.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

■ SPRINGTIME TRAFFIC LIGHT LAMB

Continued from page 11

- 1 sprig fresh rosemary (remove the stem after cooking and before eating)
- 1 sprig fresh thyme (the little leaves will fall off during cooking; take the stem out of the pan prior to eating)
- Juice of one-half lemon
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- One cup water or chicken stock (for use in the couscous)
- One cup of tricolor couscous (great color and visual appeal, but tastes exactly like normal white couscous)
- One-half cup chicken stock
- One-half cup dry white wine
- 1 Tablespoon cornstarch
- Grated zest of one-half lemon (for garnish)
- A few slices of lemon (again, for the beautiful garnish)

1. In a bowl combine the olive oil, shallot and

garlic. Add the lamb and stir to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least one hour or up to four hours.

2. Preheat a large sauté pan over medium-high heat. Add the lamb and marinade to the pan. Season lightly with kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper. Brown the meat on all sides. The lamb will cook in approximately 4-6 minutes. Remove the meat to a platter; keep warm.

3. Reduce heat to medium and drizzle the second batch of oil into the pan. Add the mushrooms and cook until soft and brown, about 4-5 minutes. Add the remaining vegetables (the asparagus pieces, the chunked pepper and summer squash), the sprigs of rosemary and thyme and the lemon juice, season lightly with kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper and cook, stirring frequently, until the vegetables are cooked al dente (a still slightly crisp crunch), 4-5 minutes.

4. While the veggies are cooking take out a small pot and lid. Bring one cup of water or chicken stock to a boil; stir in the couscous, turn off the heat and cover the pan. Fluff with a fork when the liquid is absorbed in about 5 minutes. Set aside.

5. In a one-cup measuring cup whisk together the chicken stock, the wine and the cornstarch. Stir this fragrant mixture into the vegetables and cook, stirring constantly, until the liquid thickens. Add more wine or stock if the sauce seems too thick. Gently stir the lamb back into the pan, coating it with the sauce. Adjust seasonings according to your personal taste. For example, sometimes I'm in the mood for lots of lemon, in which case I might use the juice of an entire lemon. More salt, more pepper. Let your taste buds decide.

6. Discard the rosemary and thyme stems. Platter up the tricolor couscous and spoon the lamb and red, yellow and green vegetables on top. Ladle some of the sauce on the couscous and pour the remaining liquid into a small bowl for use "on the side." Garnish your traffic light presentation with grated lemon zest and slices of fresh lemon.

All of us can be ventriloquists after eating this meal. Just put your lips together and exclaim a satisfying, "Mmmmm!"

Happy Spring, everyone!

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Political Advertisement

Tony James

For School Committee



We will be voting for Tony James, because
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Sue Hunter
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Lori Wanzek
Daniel T. Grams
Lisa Lattari
Karen M. Parker
Joe Geary
Kim Baker
Jack Formicella
Gina M. Murray
Amy Aycock
Kim Lieberman
Dara B. Casey

Peg Campbell
Kent Wanzek
Mary Kay Sam
Hope Fabiani
Annette Grams
Kevin Peters
Eileen A. Brady
Janice Barker
Ken Piro
Bill Holt
Joanne Sullivan
Laurie Liffman
Devin Kelly
Ron Sanfield
Kevin Hall
David Drinon
Diane Costagliola
Barbara H. Wait

Ellen Lynch
Pat Donelan
Sherry Nadworny
Thyra S. Sherman
Cynthia Egan
Connie Rastello
Debra Silberstein
Carol Baffi-Dugan
Karen E. Reed
Aileen Peters
Robin Shea
Alyssa Rastello
Leah Rastello
Andrew Girdwood
Kay Diamantas
James Sherman
Ann Geary
Kathleen O'Hara

Madeline Minahan
Steven J. Rinaldi
Thomas E. Brady
Magid Mazen
Michelle O'Connor
Kevin Brosnan
Jennifer A. Dalton
Norah McCarthy
Len D'Innocenzo
Carl Resnik
John Dugan
Nancy Greley
Denise Doherty
Jean Shapiro
James F. Greeley
Doug Reed
Laura White
Susan Hsu

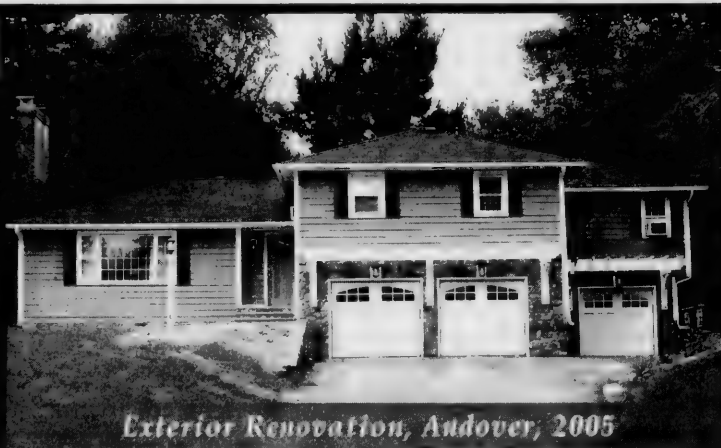
Tina Girdwood
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Tom Hsu
David S. Samuels
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Pat Commene
Martha Hyslip
Jane Anthony
Eric Nadworny
Laurie Brosnan
Sheena Stack
Cecily Colby
Diana Mancinelli
Jean Weeks
Robin Brownson
Tom Carroll

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Pat Rastello
Carol J. Weldin
Andrea A. Spang
Janelle Derby
Norma Villareal
Mark Johnson
Richard Benson
John R. Roberts
Laurie Wallace
Kevin Shea
Phillip Weeks
Valerie Mack
Maria H. Hamilton
Jan Piro
Jill Formicella
Brian Barker
Dermot Kelly

Stephen J. Fabiani
Raymond J. Cannon
Bill Pennington
Constance K. James
Andy Sherman
Dorie Resnik
Judith Holt
Donna D'Innocenzo
Danielle Berthiaume
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FIRST BIRTHDAYS

~ 2006 KEY DATES ~

ISSUE DATE	PHOTO DEADLINE
Mar. 30	Mar. 24
Apr. 27	Apr. 21
May 25	May 19
June 29	June 23
July 27	July 21
Aug. 31	Aug. 25
Sept. 28	Sept. 22
Oct. 26	Oct. 20
Nov. 30	Nov. 24
Dec. 28	Dec. 22

BABIES CELEBRATING THEIR FIRST BIRTHDAYS, affiliated with Andover, are eligible to have their pictures in the *Townsmen* free. They will normally be published in the issue dated the last Thursday of the month, in the month of baby's first birthday. All babies having a first birthday in March will be published in the March 30 issue. All photos must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, March 24 (see box).

Photos received after the deadline will not be published. Similarly, first birthday photos older than the current month also will not be published.

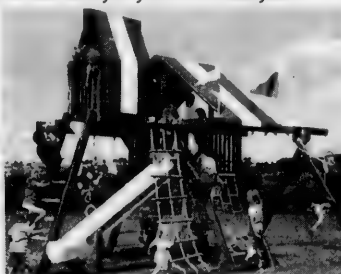
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OBITUARIES

Marion Lagrasse

Lifelong resident died after fire destroyed home

Marion Lagrasse, 74, of Andover, died Tuesday, March 7, in Fitchburg, nine days after being displaced by a fire that destroyed her ranch-style home on Lowell Street.

She was born Dec. 28, 1931 in Lawrence, the daughter of the late Ella and James Gordon, and sister of the late Dick and Edward Gordon of Andover.

She was a lifelong resident of Andover, living in the house across the street from Raytheon.

Family members said she opened her doors to many in need. She worked for the Andover Police Department, Raytheon, and St. Anne's Orphanage, Methuen.

Members of her family include daughters, Cheryl Drewry of Newport News, Va., Susan Lagrasse of Andover, and Diane Lagrasse of Lawrence; two stepsons, Joe and Bobby Lagrasse; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and her cat, Secret.

There was a private memorial service.

Memorial contributions may be made to Fidelity House, One Park St., Lawrence, MA 01843.

Virginia M. Ramos

Managed family rice farm in the Philippines

Virginia M. Ramos, 93, died of an aneurysm on Thursday, March 16, at Lawrence General Hospital.

Virginia de Ocampo Melebo was born on Sept. 21, 1912 at Guimba, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, the second of six children.

She was married to Hon. Eusebio F. Ramos, a district judge, and had three sons and five daughters.

Mrs. Ramos was active in church and charitable works. As a homemaker, she tended rose gardens, played the piano, crocheted, and cooked. She also assumed the management of the family business in rice farming.

Widowed at 60, she had lived in Phoenix and Scottsdale, Ariz.; and Reading, Belmont, and Andover, Mass.; and Montreal, Canada.

She also traveled back and forth to the Philippines for regular visits.

For the past six years, she lived in North Andover, where she was cared for by her children, Sergio, Virginia, Socorro and Paz.

She became handicapped at age 90 and slowed down considerably. Family members said she read, prayed and took an interest in bird watching.

Members of her family include her brother, Alfonso Melebo; eight children in the Philippines and the United States — Sergio and Wyavina (Juan) Ramos, Jose and Violeta (Francisco) Ramos, Ruby and Francisco Roxas, Raul and Librada (Homilla) Ramos, Ofelia and Edgardo Acuna, and Virginia, Socorro, and Paz Ramos and Arthur Johnson; 20 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Interment will be in the

Philippines.

Arrangements are by the Dewhirst & Conte Funeral Home, 17 Third St., North Andover.

Helmut M. Lutsch

Worked for Tree and Parks Department

Helmut M. Lutsch, 55, of Andover, died Sunday, March 19, at Kaplan House in Danvers.

Born in Styre, Austria, Dec. 15, 1950, he worked for the town of Andover Tree and Parks Department.

He was a member of NHRA.

Members of his family include one son, Keogh Lutsch of Andover; one daughter, Marcie Martellucci and her husband Jarrod of Lawrence; parents, Mathias and Rosa Lutsch of Andover; one sister, Linda Clark and her husband Brian of Pelham, N.H.; one grandchild; one nephew; and one niece.

A graveside service at Spring Grove Cemetery will be held today, Thursday, March 23, at 10 a.m.

Calling hours were scheduled for Wednesday, March 22 from 3 to 7 p.m. at Burke-Magliozi Funeral Home, 390 N. Main St., Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Kaplan Hospice House, 78 Liberty St., Danvers, MA 01923.

Ruth G. Nelson

Department head introduced 'new math' into the curriculum

Ruth G. Nelson of North Andover died Thursday, March 2, at the Prescott Nursing Home.

She was born in 1928 in Newton to the late Helen (Steinert) Nelson and Charles Nelson, MD of Lawrence.

She attended Wheaton College in Norton and was a graduate of Vanderbilt University, in Tennessee.

She received her master's degree from Tufts University.

After graduation she taught locally in various school systems before settling in the Andover Public Schools, where she taught for 34 years.

Ms. Nelson started as a second-grade teacher at South Elementary School, then went on to Andover Junior High and Andover High School. She was head of the math department at Andover Junior High and was responsible for introducing "new math" in the Andover math curriculum.

Ms. Nelson was elected to the Delta Kappa Gamma Society for Women Educators and was a member of the Retired Educators Association of Massachusetts.

She was a member of the Lawrence Ski Club of Lawrence and Bartlett, N.H., and also a member of Andover Country Club.

In her later years, she enjoyed playing bridge at the North Andover Senior Center.

She was also a member of the Grace Church of Lawrence.

Members of her family include a niece, Laura Fong of Charlotte, N.C.; nephews, William E. Nelson Jr. of San Clemente, Calif. and Charles E. Nelson of Eap, Calif.; and several cousins.

She was predeceased by a brother, William E. Nelson, MD of Huntington Harbor, Calif.

There are no calling hours.

A memorial graveside service will be held Saturday, March 25 at 11 a.m. at West Parish Cemetery in Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association, 61 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10006; or to Merrimack Valley Hospice, 360 Merrimack St., Lawrence, MA 01843.

Arrangements are by Emmert & Dewhirst Funeral Home, 93 East Haverhill St., Lawrence.

Edna G. Kidd

Lived here since 1953

Edna Graves Kidd, 93, died Friday, March 17, at the Nevins Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Methuen, after a long illness.

She was born in Cambridge on Dec. 7, 1912. She was one of five daughters of Henry and Elizabeth Graves.

She graduated from St. Mary's High School, Cambridge, in 1933 and worked as secretary to the store manager of Sears in Boston during the 1940s.

DEATHS

Jennifer L. Correa, 31
Richard H. Dunn, 72
Alice Guilmet, 92
Edna Graves Kidd, 93
Marion Lagrasse, 74
Lauren M. Licciardi, 15
Cecilia N. Long, 93
Helmut M. Lutsch, 55
Ruth G. Nelson
Virginia M. Ramos, 93
Arthur W. Reason, 94

DEATHS ELSEWHERE

CORREA — Jennifer L. Correa, 31, of Ossipee, N.H. and formerly of Lawrence and Methuen, died Sunday, March 19 at North Conway Hospital in Conway, N.H. She was a graduate of Greater Lawrence Technical School in Andover.

GUILMET — Alice (Beliveau) Guilmet, 92, of Salem, N.H. died Monday, March 20 at the Methuen Health and Rehabilitation Center. Members of her family include her brother, Armand Beliveau of Andover.

LICCIARDI — Lauren M. Licciardi, 15, of Methuen, died Friday, March 17, at home surrounded

by her loving family and friends after a courageous battle with leukemia. She was a synchronized swimmer and a member of the Andover Synchro of Andover and North Andover YMCA on Haverhill Street in Andover.

REASON — Arthur W. Reason, 94, of Saco, Maine, and formerly of Lawrence, died Wednesday, March 16 at Southern Maine Medical Center, following a brief illness. Mr. Reason worked at the J.P. Stevens Mill and was the superintendent at the Dundee Warehouse, both in Andover.

Cecilia N. Long

Formerly of Saugus

Cecilia N. (Collen) Long, 93, of Andover, formerly of Saugus, died Saturday, March 18 in a local nursing home, after a lengthy illness.

She was the widow of Alfred J. Long.

Mrs. Long was the daughter of the late Charles P. and Nora J. (Walsh) Collen.

A graduate of Saugus High School, class of 1930, she was a resident of Saugus for most of her life.

She worked at Saugus Trust Co. for several years until her retirement.

Mrs. Long was a former communicant of St. Margaret Church in Saugus.

Members of her family include two sons, sons Alfred J. Long Jr. and his wife Vivian of Columbus, Ohio, and E. Paul Long and his wife Andrea of Andover; five grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was the sister of the late Marion Bergquist, Ellsworth "Ellie" Collen, Dorothy E. Dempsey, and Mabel A. Grimes.

Private graveside services will be held in Riverside Cemetery, Saugus.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Margaret's Church, 431 Lincoln Ave., Saugus, MA 01906.

Arrangements are by the Cuffe-McGinn Funeral Home, 157 Maple St. Lynn.

OBITUARIES ARE SUPPLIED BY FUNERAL HOMES AND FAMILY MEMBERS

FOR SENIORS

By Pat Becker

Andover Senior Center

Here are some of the activities coming up at the Andover Senior Center. Call the senior center at 978-623-8321 for further information about any classes, programs or services.

Andover Town elections will take place next Tuesday, March 28. Shuttle bus service will operate between the high school and senior center with stops at Frye Circle and Railroad Street. The service will be running between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. and a copy of the schedule is available at the senior center.

Movie Matinee: Join us Monday, March 27 at 1 p.m. when we will show the recent release, *Cinderella Man*, starring Renee Zellweger and Russell Crowe. Reservations are not necessary and all are welcome.

Massage Therapy: A licensed massage therapist is on-site at the center Monday mornings by appointment, offering seated, upper-body massages. Cost is just \$12 for a 20-minute appointment. Call the center if you would like to try out this great stress reliever.

Fix-It Shop: The fix-it volunteers will be back at the center again Monday, April 10 at 1:30 p.m. They will be happy to take a look at any small item or appliance in need of repair. Your cost is \$2 plus any necessary parts.

Book Club: Our afternoon book club will meet again on Thursday, April 6 at 1 p.m. The *No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* will be the topic of discussion. Copies of the book are available at the center for check-out. Newcomers are welcome to this group at any time.

Pain Management Class: If you watched the recent specials on the *NBC Nightly News* as well as *Chronicle*, you might be interested in the next session of our pain management class. Ten weeks beginning Tuesday, April 18 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Based on techniques developed by the Mind/Body Institute and the Arnold Pain Center at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, this program incorporates both traditional and complementary methods aimed at decreasing pain and improving function. Cost is \$40, and pre-registration is necessary.

Tax Appointments: AARP tax preparers are currently available at the center on Thursday and Friday mornings by appointment. This is a free service for seniors of moderate income. For further information on income guidelines, appropriate information to bring, or to schedule an appointment, call the senior center at 978-623-8321.

Alternatives to Medicine for Cancer Prevention & Treatment: Thursday, March 30 at 2 p.m. This program will focus on dietary fac-

tors that may be involved with the initiation, promotion and prevention of certain forms of cancer; how nutritional medical therapy plays a role in preventing the most frequent complications of cancer; and the use of complementary and alternative medicine in treating cancer. Speaker will be Dr. Thomas Wilson. Cost is \$3 and pre-registration would be appreciated.

Preventing Diabetes: The rate of diabetes has been dramatically increasing in the United States leading to serious health complications. This PowerPoint presentation and lecture on Monday, March 27 at 1:30 p.m. will focus on ways that diabetes can be prevented by being aware of risk factors, warning signs, and protective measures. This is a free program, but pre-registration is necessary.

Creative Cooking/Lunch Group: Have the fun of going out to eat right at the senior center by watching Ed Alessi's cooking demo and having lunch together. The class will be held on Thursday, March 30 at 11:15 a.m. March menu will be veal in a tomato caper sauce, Italian salad, breadsticks and dessert.

"Shifting Gears" Safe Driving Program: The Registry of Motor Vehicles will present "Shifting Gears," a free hour-long program

designed to educate and encourage elder drivers to continue being responsible and safe. The program will be held at the center tomorrow, Friday, March 24 at 9:30 a.m. Pre-registration is required by calling the center.

Peabody Essex Museum Trip Thursday, April 27 - "Painting Summer In New England": This exhibition features more than 100 paintings by 70 major artists. Lent primarily by museums across the US, including the Metropolitan Museum of American Art, the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and the Whitney Museum of American Art, provides the opportunity to explore the remarkable artistic richness that New England has inspired. Cost is \$28, which includes museum admission, guided tour of the exhibit and bus transportation from the center.

Art History Slide & Lecture Series: "Women Artists from the 17th through the 20th Century" will be the topic of this four-week slide and lecture series by art lecturer Gerry Weisenberg. The class will meet Thursdays, April 6, 13, 20 and May 4. Cost is \$20 for the series; pre-registration is necessary.

Beginners' Computer Class: This four-week course is for the novice who has little or no experience using the computer and wish-

es to learn the very basics. The class will meet on Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. beginning April 4. Class size is limited and pre-registration (\$30) is necessary.

Interactive Internet: Are you ready for some "surfing"? Learn about popular Internet providers, search engines and portal navigation. We'll explore numerous sites of interest to seniors including medical, travel, government and many others. Meet on Wednesdays for four weeks, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. beginning April 5. Spaces are limited and pre-registration (\$30) is necessary.

Calligraphy: Learn how to address envelopes, invitations or special gifts using a beautiful script. The instructor will be Andover artist Carol Boileau. There is no charge for the lessons. The instructor will supply all materials needed for the class at a charge of \$10 per person. The three-session class will be held Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. beginning April 12.

Woodcarving: The spring session of woodcarving will get underway Monday, April 10. The 10-week session meets Monday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. at a cost of \$20. Some carving experience is helpful, but instruction is available from Fred Arakelian.

OBITUARIES

The *Townsmen* will publish obituaries of Andover residents without charge.

The paper also will publish without charge a short announcement of those people who died and did not live here, but are related to someone who lives in Andover. This listing will include the name of the deceased, where he or she lived, when he or she died, and names of relatives in Andover.

Those who wish to have a complete obituary published about a person who did not live in Andover can pay for a death notice. The cost of a death notice depends on the length of the notice.

Questions? Call Jack Grady or Neil Fater at 978-475-7000.

Cabaret performance includes local resident

Andover resident Michael Levy is performing in Wakefield Repertory Theatre's production of *Cabaret*. Levy is a Kit Kat Club waiter and a member of the ensemble, which helps to bring to life a dark time in German history, where rules were constantly being bent and social mores tested.

Cabaret, set in the tumultuous city of Berlin just before Hitler's rise to power, is based on Christopher Isherwood's *Berlin Stories* and John Van Druten's *I Am a Camera*.

Cabaret will be presented Friday, March 24 and Saturday, March 25 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, March 19 at 2 p.m. Performances will take place at the Galvin Middle School Auditorium, 525 Main St., Wakefield. Tickets are \$16 for adults; \$14 for students and seniors. Tickets may be purchased by calling 781-245-1173, in person at the box office in the Galvin Middle School Auditorium an hour before each performance, or online through www.ticket-stage.com/WRT. For further information, e-mail wakefieldrep@hotmail.com, or visit www.wakefieldrep.org.

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Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS CALENDAR

Thursday, March 23

Program, ghost tales told at Life Long Learning. Teddi DiCano of Marblehead will present "Ghost Stories for Adults," 2 p.m., open to the public, admission \$1; Room 103A, Technology Center, Haverhill campus, Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill; Charlene Boucher 978-556-3825 or cboucher@nec.mass.edu.

Reception and reading, special evening of celebration of *The Powow River Anthology* National Launch, the 24 Powow River Poets include Deborah Warren and Lois Frankenberger of Andover; *The Powow River Anthology* now available for \$14.95 online at ocean-publishing.com. Internet retailers, and at local bookstores; 7-9 p.m., free and open to the public; Newburyport Art Association, 65 Water St. (wheelchair accessible), Newburyport; 978-465-8769.

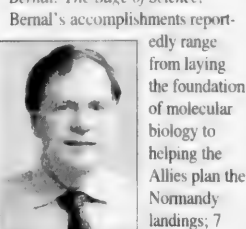


The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari, 1919.

▲ **Benefit film showing**, *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, directed in 1919 by Robert Wiene and thought of as the first modern horror film, with original live soundtrack by guitarist/singer/writer Zac Galen newly returned from Berlin; proceeds benefit the John Lively Foundation which awards scholarships in Lively's memory including those to high school students to attend Berklee School of Music's summer program, 7 p.m., free-will donations welcomed, refreshments available; Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6 Locke St.; Rev. Ralph Galen 978-475-4454.

Author event, Andrew Brown will read from his new biography *J.D.*

Bernal: The Sage of Science.



Andrew Brown

89R Main St., Karen Harris 978-475-0143, www.andoverbookstore.com.

Friday, March 24

London Philharmonic Orchestra trip, performance at Symphony Hall in Boston at 8 p.m., \$70 includes transportation from the senior center and first balcony center seats, advance tickets only, Andover Senior Center; Pat Becker 978-623-8321.

Performance, the musical *Oliver!*, sponsored by the Merrimack Junior Theatre, directed by Josie Walker and choreographed by Josie Walker and Amy Wilkins-Blanchette, 7:30 p.m., tickets \$8, available at KaBloom, the Department of Community Services, members of the cast, and at the door; Memorial Auditorium at Doherty Middle School, Bartlett Street; Anne Sullivan 978-686-5499.

Author event, Arlene Alda will read from her latest creation, the



Arlene Alda

Book of ZZZ's, at the morning story time for young children, hosted by Susan Lenoe, storyteller, 10 a.m., free, Andover Bookstore, 89R Main St., Karen Harris 978-475-0143, www.andoverbookstore.com.

Continued on page 15

Saturday Night Live in the Express Line

By Judy Wakefield

YOU'RE IN THE EXPRESS LINE at the supermarket. It's limited to nine items or less when you notice the guy in front of you has more than nine. He's got 11.

Someone behind you speaks up about the nine-plus grocery load and next thing you know, the supermarket manager is called, and the gum-chewing cashier and other customers jump in. Even the butcher gets involved, as he has a steak — er, a stake — in this.

Welcome to *The Express Line*, an over-the-top take on that oh-so-familiar grocery store scene. This zany comedy, with its *Saturday Night Live*-ish feel of dry one-liners, is all about that express line experience as the smock-wearing actors get carried away in the aisles and at the cash register.

CANNED HUMOR — Show producers Linda Schoonmaker and Penny Kohut are asking showgoers to bring a canned food item. Items collected at the four shows will be donated to a local food pantry.

There's singing and some small dance steps on this supermarket stage, and tons of laughs. Andover producer Penny Kohut, best known for her off-beat play selections, is at it again with her co-producer from North Andover. They produced a comedic stage version of the board game *Clue!* last year, and more than 600 people came out to see it.

The Express Line is indeed a real play, but Kohut of Andover and Linda Schoonmaker of North Andover have added their brand of one-liners. Musician and songwriter Jeff Workman of North Andover joins them with his quality style.

"It's us. It's our funny, offbeat style added to something that people live every day. Yeah, it's over-the-top, but you know us," said Kohut, an accomplished singer and performer who left



Cracking up! — Producers Linda Schoonmaker of North Andover (left) and Penny Kohut of Andover bag a brand of zany supermarket humor in their new show, *The Express Line*. Here, they appropriately pose in the set's cracker aisle as they are confident the show will crack up the audience.

Manhattan for Andover when her husband took a job in these parts. "We like to laugh."

"People should come and laugh," added Schoonmaker. "That's what we like to do and that's what our shows are about — laughing."

Both women are married with children and well known on the local birthday party scene as they turn parties into plays. Party guests get a script, a character role and then perform on the Acting Out stage. The event is pulled off in about two hours and amazes moms like Susan Welch of Andover who hired Acting Out for her daughter's birthday party.

"I've never met anyone like them," Welch said. "The party was a hit and I couldn't believe they put all the kids on stage and did a play in two hours. My daughter is still talking about it."

She was on hand this week for *The Express*

Line rehearsal as her husband, Greg Welch, was innocently walking by a door when Kohut and Schoonmaker attacked, or "asked," if he wanted to be in the show. He was cast as the butcher.

"He's got a Jack Nicholson look to him, doesn't he?" Schoonmaker asked at a rehearsal earlier this week.

But there is no shining resume... *The Express Line* role is Welch's first. He fits right in, as he likes to laugh.

Welch, a musician and artist, has a studio in the Lawrence building that houses Acting Out. An ardent arts supporter, he said he is happy to see high-quality theater near his hometown.

"I support these two. What they are doing is great. I hope people come out," he said. "Lawrence has an arts potential and these two

Continued on page 18



Around the table, from left, Justin Colombo, Ned Berger, Becky Christoforo, Samantha Rance and Nancy McNamee rehearse the birthday scene of *The Dining Room*, a play written by A.R. Gurney. The Andover High actors each play six characters during different eras at the same table. The students won an ensemble acting award during last weekend's semi-final round, and advance to the State Finals in Boston beginning next Thursday, March 30.

Andover High heading into the state finals

Cast earns an ensemble acting award for performing Gurney's *The Dining Room*; crew also earns honors for set construction

THE MASSACHUSETTS HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA FESTIVAL semi-finals were held last Saturday at the Collins Center, and Andover High was one of the three winning schools to advance to the next round — the state finals — at John Hancock Hall in Boston.

Not only did AHS win, but the entire cast was cited for excellence in acting with an ensemble acting award — the only play so cited in last Saturday's competition, organizers said.

They likened "going to states" with "the holy grail for high school theater kids."

Andover High students receiving awards included Rebecca Christoforo, Michael McNamara, Samantha Rance, Ned Berger, Nancy

McNamee and Justin Colombo, for Ensemble Award for Excellence in Acting.

Also, students Tom Blandford, Ashley Cataldo, Matthew Colbert, Laura Davis, Sean Dempsey, Peter Galebach, Katelyn Greeley, Molly Hudkins, Paul Irish, Jeff Kohr, Ryan Long, Brian McCall, Pat McGovern, Karl McGrotty, Nancy McNamee, Rob Palardy, Chris Perry, Chris Sicklet, Jackson Stewart, Ryan Struhl, Patty Sullivan, Maddy Sundberg, and Rachel Wetmore, shared the award for set construction.

The Massachusetts High School Drama Guild State Finals will run next Thursday, March 30 through Saturday, April 1, at John Hancock Hall in Boston.



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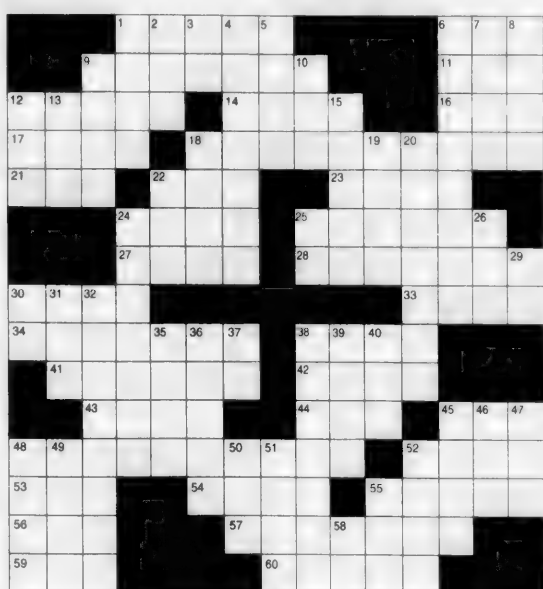
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Gaze
6. School organization
9. Luminous intensity unit
11. Cleaning implement
12. Tinge or color
14. Humorous uses of a word
16. ...rina: wind instrument
17. Arabian marketplace
18. Nursery tale heroine
21. Hovel
22. Singular of have
23. Prong
24. Painfully tender
25. To keel over
27. Surely (archaic)
28. Left a mark on
30. Current units
33. This (Spanish)
34. Luggage deliverers
38. Trips around a track
41. More impoverished
42. Vestments
43. Superficial, nonchalant
44. Government revenue
45. Magnetomotive force, abbr.
48. Characters with 18 across
52. ...tha: Bewitched child
53. Affirmative
54. ...ngton: famous Duke
55. Quality of color
56. Stuff
57. Threatens
59. Omaha Public Schools (abbr.)



60. Weird and scary

CLUES DOWN

1. Fire
2. Explosive
3. Promotion of a product

4. Finds a state of rest
5. 12th Jewish month
6. Goes ahead
7. Stable gear
8. Turkish leader title (plural)
9. English King 1016-1035 AD

10. As well as
12. Thyrotrophin
13. An informal debt instrument
15. Indian instrument
18. ...baldi: Italian patriot
19. Former Italian currency
20. Singleness, wholeness
22. To what extent
24. Heartbeat
25. A radio band
26. Remaining after all deductions
29. Delaware (abbr.)
30. Associated Press (abbr.)
31. Item for cleaning floors
32. Software systems
35. Shallowest Great Lake
36. Jewish spiritual leader
37. Not junior
39. Comfort station
39. Expression of sorrow or pity
40. Telephone switch
45. Netherlands river
46. Million barrels per day, (abbr.)
47. Expresses distaste, disgust
48. Beginner
49. Pile
50. Threatened tree
51. Away from wind
52. You
55. ...-fi (slang)
58. A noble gas

SOLUTION ON PAGE 16

EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH 23 - APRIL 2
Continued from page 14

Performance, Acting Out Theater Company presents *The Express Line*, described as a zany spoof about the supermarket; 7:30 p.m., tickets \$10 adults, \$8 children (under 12) and seniors; at The Stage, 60 Island St., Lawrence; for tickets call 978-794-0001 or e-mail actingout@earthlink.net; www.actingout.biz.

The President's Society Dinner, sponsored by the American Textile History Museum, meet the museum's new executive director, James S. Coleman, who will be the featured speaker. In his presentation, he shares anecdotes from his 30-year career in the textile industry, and his vision for the future of the museum; the evening honors museum donors who have contributed gifts of \$1,000 or more during the past year; 6 p.m., cocktails; dinner 6:45, \$40 per person; American Textile History Museum, 491 Dutton St., Lowell; for reservations, call Marisa Tescione at 978-441-0400

Ext. 246, or e-mail mtescione@athm.org.

Saturday, March 25

Grand opening celebration.

Robin's Yoga & Healing Center LLC, bring friends and family to enjoy free yoga classes, massage, talks, raffles and sales, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., free, 885 Main St., Suite 1A, Tewksbury; 978-851-9911, www.yogawithrobin.com.

Auditions, North Shore Music Theatre seeking local equity and non-equity actors for various speaking and non-speaking roles, for *Singin' in the Rain*, those interested in auditioning should call or e-mail for an appointment at 978-232-7248 or jlarock@nsmt.org.

Third Annual Wine Tasting and Art Show, sponsored by North Parish of North Andover Unitarian Universalist Church, art exhibits from members of the Andovers Artists Guild and guests will be on display and available for purchase, wines will be supplied by Shaw-sheen Village Liquors, which will donate a percentage of all wine sale profits to the North Parish Church Building Fund; 4-6:30 p.m., hot hors d'oeuvres and live music are also included in the ticket price of \$15, tickets are available at Shaw-sheen Village Liquors, 2-4 Poor St., and at North Parish Church (in advance or at the door); at the North Parish Church, Parish Hall, 190 Academy Road, North Andover; Lianne Cristaldi 978-689-9549.

Story Hour, featuring Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are*, a special interactive presentation sponsored by Join Quota International of Andover; storyteller and fiddler Marie Rawlings will join student violinist Nadia Castagna, with sign language interpreters Isadora Howard-Karp and Jennifer Moyrihan; 1-3 p.m., admission is free and refreshments will be served, appropriate for all ages; at Stevens Memorial Library, 345 North Main St., North Andover; Sally Doocey 978-475-0374.

Performance, The Express Line, 2 p.m. matinee and 7:30 p.m., see Friday, March 24 entry.

Performance, the musical Oliver!, see Friday, March 24 entry.

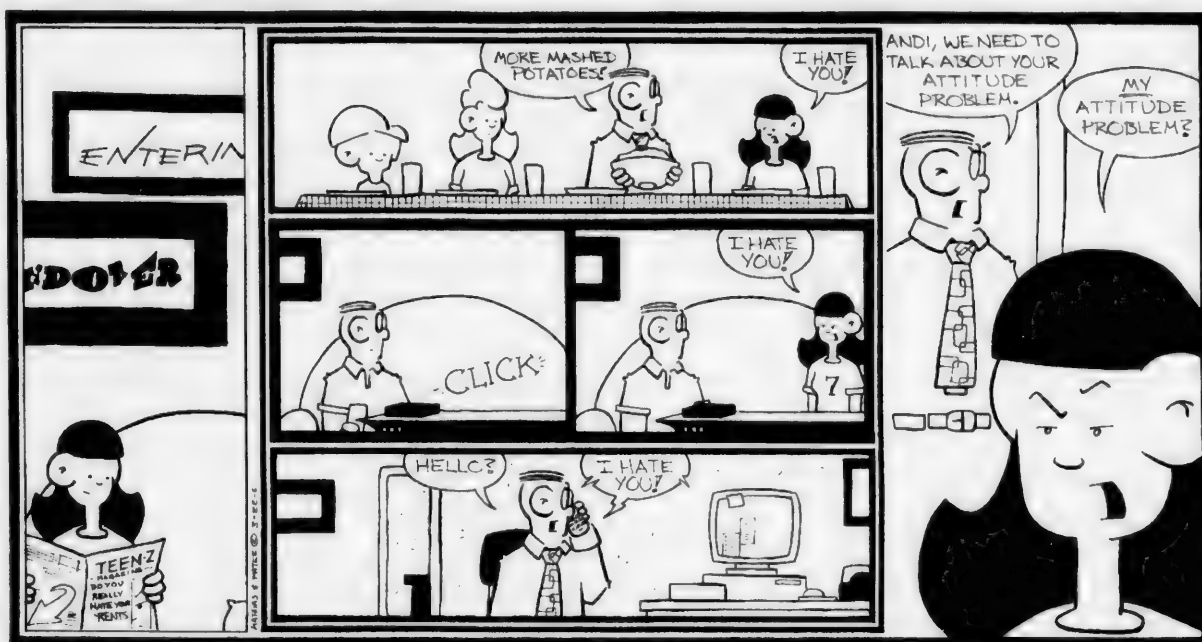
Sunday, March 26

A Tribute to John & Peter Smith, co-sponsored by the Andover Historical Society and Memorial Hall Library, the Smith Brothers, founders and managers of Smith and Dove Flax Manufacturing Co., with their partner, John Dove, will be honored "for their vision, leadership and generosity"; Gail Ralston

Continued on page 16

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195/70R14 \$70.00	225/75R15 \$86.00	

Other sizes available

EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH 23 - APRIL 2
Continued from page 15
and Bob Decelle will demonstrate flax processing by hand, followed by Jim Baichelder presenting a PowerPoint history of Smith and Dove; Juliet Mofford will discuss the Smith Brothers' involvement in the town's anti-slavery movement, the Underground Railroad and the establishment of Free Christian Church by abolitionists; Karen Herman will conclude the program describing the brothers' role in the founding of Memorial Hall Library to honor the town's Civil War veterans; 2-4 p.m., free, at Memorial Hall, Elm Square; Elaine Clements 978-475-2236 or Norma Gammon 978-623-8400.

Live music, the Barbara and Al Boudreau Quartet, featuring Mike Tucker on sax, and regulars Mark Carlsen on bass, Jack Senior on piano, Al Boudreau on drums and Barbara Boudreau doing vocals, 5-8 p.m., \$5 cover charge, Stripers Grille, 175 Bridge Road, Salisbury; 978-499-0400 or pschafer@stripersgrille.com.

Performance, the musical Oliver!, 2 p.m., see Friday, March 24 entry.

Monday, March 27
No events listed.

Tuesday, March 28
No events listed.

Wednesday, March 29
No events listed.

Thursday, March 30
Program, sponsored by Life Long Learning, former trial lawyer Diane Rapaport of Lexington will present "Finding Your Ancestors in New England Court Records," learn how to find and use court records from the 17th to the 21st centuries and preview Rapaport's book, *New England records: A Research Guide for Genealogists and Historians*, 2 p.m., admission is \$1, open to the public., Room 103A, Technology Center, Haverhill campus, Northern Essex Community College; Charlene Boucher 978-556-3825 or cboucher@necc.mass.edu.



Friday, March 31
Performance, AHS Dance Club pre-

sents its annual show, *The Beat Goes On*, all dances are student-choreographed and range in style from hip-hop to Indian folk dance to tap and ballet, 7:30 p.m., tickets are \$5 and will be sold at the door, public is welcome; Collins Center, Andover High School, Shawsheen Road; Kim Bergey 978-623-8655 or kbergey@aps1.net.

Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament, proceeds to benefit West Elementary School, 6 p.m., \$150 donation to play for the evening with \$10,000 in prize payouts; Indian Ridge Country Club, Lovejoy Road; Diane M. Marcou 978-475-5400, information and registration forms can be obtained at www.westelptc.com.

Saturday, April 1
Artist event, Andover artist and illustrator Vicky Enright will talk about her latest project, *Written Anything Good Lately?* The book, authored by Susan Allen, is an alphabet book for children about

Continued on page 17




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Congratulations to Arthur Lauretano, MD, one of Boston Magazine's "Top Doctors" for 2006.

Dr. Lauretano, an ear, nose and throat (ENT) specialist affiliated with Lowell General Hospital, has earned a place on *Boston Magazine's* list of "Top Doctors" for 2006.

Dr. Lauretano earned this distinction because of his exceptional reputation among New England physicians as a surgeon and practitioner in both adult and pediatric medicine. Board certified in Otolaryngology, Dr. Lauretano is on staff at Harvard Medical School, where he and his colleagues at Massachusetts ENT Associates teach the next generation of ENTs.

Lowell General Hospital is proud to have Dr. Lauretano among our outstanding physicians, who are leaders in their specialties, innovators in surgery, and providers of care to our Greater Lowell community.



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EVENTS CALENDAR

■ MARCH 23 - APRIL 2

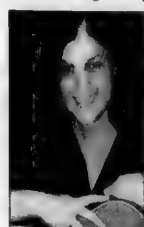
Continued from page 16

the many types of writing; following Enright's discussion about how illustrating a book, there will be an interactive project where children can try their hand at writing and doing some artwork, 2 p.m., free; Andover Bookstore, 89-R Main St., Karen Harris 978-475-0143, www.andoverbookstore.com.

Concert. Andover native and Playscape Records recording artist Pete Robbins will lead his jazz group, his ensemble features the bassist and drummer from Steve Coleman's Five Elements, the line-up will include Robbins on alto saxophone, Sam Sadigursky on tenor and soprano saxophones, Ryan Blotnick and Mike Gamble on guitars, Eliot Cardinaux on Nord Electro piano, Thomas Morgan on bass, and Tyshawn Sorey on drums; 7:30 p.m., free and open to the public (no cover charge), Timkin Room, Graves Hall, Phillips Academy campus, 180 Main St.; 978-749-4000 or www.andover.edu.

Craft fair, sponsored for the 10th year by the Dracut High Band Boosters, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Dracut High School, 1540 Lakeview Ave., Dracut; 978-957-5287.

Concert, singer-songwriter Joanne



Joanne Hammil

Hammil, sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover, Amnesty International Chapter 165, and the Merrimack Valley People for Peace; 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m., \$12 suggested donation, be a Fan with a Can and bring a non-perishable food item for People's Pantry, at the Coffee



FILE PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Vicky Enright will discuss illustrating children's books at Andover Bookstore on Saturday, April 1.

house at Locke Street, 6 Locke St.; 978-475-4454 or www.uuandover.org.

Sunday, April 2

No events listed.

ONGOING Art Exhibitions

Addison Gallery of American Art,

a new show on exhibit through March 26, *Portraits of a People: Picturing African Americans in the 19th Century*, a traveling show featuring more than 100 images made of (and by) African-Americans in media ranging from paintings, photographs and silhouette profiles to book frontispieces and popular prints that will travel in the spring to the Delaware Art Museum and later to the Long Beach Museum of

Art; also showing through April 9, *Young America: The Daguerreotypes of Southworth & Hawes*, the only New England showing of this major touring exhibition, which features the largest and most comprehensive exhibit of the work of two of the finest practitioners of the art of fine art portraiture using daguerreotype photography over the period of their 20-year partnership, regular gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 1-5 p.m., free admission, Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy, corner of Route 28 and Chapel Avenue; 978-749-4015, www.addisongallery.org.

Alpers Fine Art of Andover, gallery hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday

Continued on page 18

NEW CALENDAR DEADLINES

- ▶ Events listings are due **NO LATER THAN NOON ON THURSDAY** - a week before publication.
- ▶ Early submission - at least 2 weeks before the event should be published - is preferred, especially from regular contributors of news & calendar listings.
- ▶ Listings are published covering two week-ends whenever space permits.
- ▶ Priority is given to Andover events.
- ▶ Submitting by e-mail is encouraged.
- ▶ To receive a calendar listing form, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: EVENTS CALENDAR, 33 Chestnut St., Andover 01810.
- ▶ Please TYPE (or PRINT) all information.
- ▶ QUESTIONS? Call 978/475-7000, Ext. 8722 Fax 978/475-5731 E-mail: jack@andovertownsmen.com

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Getting dramatic – Lamenting about why they can't find true love in the supermarket in a scene from *The Express Line* are Maura Daly (left) as Patty the checkout girl, and Cherise Grifoni as Cheryl, who works in the customer service booth. Both are from North Andover.

Actors Acting Out

■ **'THE EXPRESS LINE'**
Continued from page 14

The Benedict family, also of Andover, is involved in the show. Ellen Benedict is a wacky older shopper while her husband Rich plays the too-serious store manager. Their son, David Benedict, is helping out on stage crew.

"I can't act, can't sing or dance but they took me," said a thrilled Ellen Benedict, who learned about the show from her son, who she said is "an Acting Out veteran who has been in shows since kinder-

garten."

He is now a third-grader at High Plain Elementary School.

"It's just finding the right part for people," Kohut interrupted. "We love it when people want to be on stage."

Then she launched into one of her trademark impromptu songs where she snaps her finger, moves her legs like a Rockette and sings like a pro.

If you go to this show, be aware that audience participation is like one of Kohut's songs.

It's a trademark.



Actors Ellen Benedict (left) and Greg Welch, both of Andover, pack some craziness into their *Express Line* characters.



COURTESY PHOTO

Closing out Irish Heritage Month, the New England Civic Ballet launches an original ballet based on Irish mystical themes and set to lilting Celtic music. Written by artistic director Phyllis George, *The Enchanted Glen* features young area performers. George choreographed this premiere production with the assistance of Roshni Pecora, director of New England Civic Ballet's school for dance education. The story line surrounds the classic tale of two young lovers separated by death. The magical Enchanted Glen, deep in a lush green Irish forest, is the setting for our story of lost loves reuniting. Three performances will be held at the Rogers Center, Merrimack College, North Andover: Saturday, March 25, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, March 26, at 2 p.m. Local dancers from Andover include (back row, from left): Jacquelyne DiTrolia, Meg Galvin, Peter Galvin, Shayna Baglio, Natalia Maldari. In front: Sumi Matsumoto. They all dance roles of the villagers throughout the ballet. In addition, Shayna will also appear in the role of a Banshee, Natalia the lead faerie, and Sumi as a faerie. Tickets are \$20 for adults, and \$18 for senior citizens and children under 12. Group rates are available for groups of 15 or more attending the same show. Tickets may be ordered online at www.newenglandciviballet.org, or by calling 978-975-0289.

EVENTS CALENDAR

■ ONGOING

Continued from page 17

and Saturday 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 2 Main St.; 978-470-0013 or www.alpersfineart.com.

Brush Art Gallery, regular hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Brush Art Gallery and Studio, 256 Market St., Lowell; 978-459-7819 or www.thebrush.org.

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- ▶ \$10 for adults; \$8 for under 12 & seniors
- ▶ For more information: 978-794-0001; actingout@earthlink.net

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Sports

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BASEBALL

(Home Games at Aumais Field)

APRIL

- 8 — at Wakefield Tournament vs. Saugus, 3:30 p.m. (Walsh Field)
- 9 — at Wakefield Tournament, opponent & time TBA
- 13 — at Billerica, 3:30 p.m. (Marshall Middle School)
- 19 — at Tewksbury, 11 a.m. (Strong Field)
- 21 — Chelmsford, 2 p.m.
- 24 — at Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m. (Merrimack College)
- 26 — Dracut, 3:30 p.m.
- 28 — Lowell, 3:45 p.m.

MAY

- 1 — at Methuen, 7 p.m.
- 3 — Haverhill, 3:45 p.m.
- 4 — at Masconomet Regional, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 8 — at Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m. (Ayotte Field)
- 10 — Lawrence, 3:30 p.m.
- 11 — Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 15 — at Lowell, 3:45 p.m. (Stoklosa/Alumni Field)
- 17 — Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 20 — at Cambridge Rindge & Latin, 10 a.m. (non-league)
- 24 — Masconomet Regional, 3:45 p.m. (non-league)
- 27-28 at Lawrence Tournament, opponents & times TBA

Head Coach: Ken Maglio (14th year, career record: 190-103).

JV Coach: Dan Grams.

Record Last Year: 18-4, Division 1 North champion; State semifinalist.

SOFTBALL

APRIL

- 5 — Everett, 4 p.m. (non-league)
- 7 — at North Reading, 4:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 10 — Tewksbury, 3:30 p.m.
- 12 — at Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 13 — Malden, 4 p.m. (non-league)
- 19 — Dracut, 11 a.m.
- 21 — at Lawrence, 11 a.m. (Hayden-Schofield Playstead)
- 24 — Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 28 — at Tewksbury, 3:30 p.m. (Memorial Field, Livingston Street)

MAY

- 1 — at Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 3 — Notre Dame Academy-Tyngsboro, 3:30 p.m.
- 5 — Lowell, 3:30 p.m.
- 8 — at Billerica, 3:30 p.m. (Lampson Field)
- 10 — Lawrence, 3:30 p.m.
- 11 — at Dracut, 7 p.m.
- 15 — Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 20 — at Methuen Tournament vs. North Andover, 7 p.m.
- 21 — at Methuen Tournament, opponent & time TBA
- 22 — Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 25 — at Notre Dame Academy-Tyngsboro, 3:30 p.m.

Head Coach: Stephanie Ragucci (10th year, career record: 100-91).

JV Coach: Betty Iannuccilli.

Record Last Year: 13-8.

BOYS LACROSSE

(Home Games at Shawheen Field)

APRIL

- 4 — Algonquin Regional, 4 p.m. (non-league)
- 6 — Billerica, 4 p.m.
- 11 — Tewksbury, 4 p.m.
- 13 — at Chelmsford, 4 p.m.
- 17 — North Andover, 7 p.m., at Lovely Field (non-league)
- 20 — Lexington, 1 p.m. (non-league)
- 24 — Franklin, 4:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 26 — at Masconomet Regional, 4 p.m. (non-league)
- 29 — Acton-Boxboro, 4 p.m. (non-league)

MAY

- 2 — at Xaverian Brothers, 4:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 5 — at Billerica, 7:30 p.m. (Marshall Middle School)
- 9 — at Tyngsboro, 6 p.m. (Pierce Field)
- 11 — at Lowell, 4 p.m. (Cawley Stadium complex)
- 16 — at Haverhill, 4 p.m. (Haverhill Stadium)
- 19 — Chelmsford, 4 p.m.
- 22 — Waltham, 4 p.m. (non-league)
- 24 — Medford, 4 p.m. (non-league)

Head Coach: Wayne Puglisi (7th year).

JV Coach: Matt James.

Record Last Year: 13-5.

GIRLS LACROSSE

(Home Games at Doherty Middle)

APRIL

- 4 — at Masconomet Regional, 3:45 p.m. (non-league)
- 6 — at Tewksbury, 3:45 p.m.
- 7 — at Needham, 4 p.m. (non-league)
- 10 — at Tyngsboro, 3:30 p.m. (Pierce Field)
- 12 — at Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 19 — Algonquin Regional, 1 p.m. (non-league)
- 22 — at Phillips Academy JVs, 2 p.m. (non-league)
- 25 — Lowell, 3:30 p.m.
- 27 — Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 29 — at North Andover, 1 p.m. (non-league)

MAY

- 1 — at Billerica, 3:30 p.m. (Lampson Field)
- 5 — Tewksbury, 3:30 p.m.
- 6 — at Shrewsbury, 2:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 8 — Tyngsboro, 3:30 p.m.
- 11 — Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 15 — at Lowell, 3:30 p.m. (Cawley Stadium complex)
- 17 — at Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m. (Simonian/Alumni Stadium)
- 20 — Billerica, 11 a.m.
- 22 — Norwell, 4 p.m. (non-league)
- 25 — Ipswich, 4 p.m. (non-league)

Head Coach: John McVeigh (2nd year, career record: 18-2).

JV Coach: Beth Arnold.

Record Last Year: 18-2, MVC champion.

BOYS TENNIS

(Home Games at AHS Courts)

APRIL

- 4 — at Reading, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 6 — Lawrence, 3:30 p.m.
- 13 — Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 26 — Billerica, 3:30 p.m.
- 28 — Lowell, 3:30 p.m.

MAY

- 1 — Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 3 — at Lowell, 3:30 p.m. (Shedd Park)
- 5 — Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 10 — at Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 11 — at Lawrence, 3:30 p.m.
- 12 — at Phillips Academy JVs, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 15 — at Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m. (Merrimack College)
- 17 — at Billerica, 3:30 p.m. (Lampson courts)
- 19 — at Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 23 — at Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 24 — St. John's Prep, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 25 — Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.

Coach: Mike Wartman (22nd year, career record: 357-51).

Record Last Year: 15-3, MVC champion; Division 1 North semifinalist.

GIRLS TENNIS

(Home Games at AHS Courts)

APRIL

- 6 — at Wellesley, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 11 — Lawrence, 3:30 p.m.
- 13 — at Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m. (Merrimack College)
- 24 — at Notre Dame Academy-Tyngsboro, 3:30 p.m.
- 26 — at Billerica, 3:30 p.m. (Lampson courts)
- 27 — at Newton South, 4 p.m. (non-league)

MAY

- 1 — at Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 3 — Lowell, 3:30 p.m.
- 5 — at Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 8 — Tewksbury, 3:30 p.m.
- 9 — Lynnfield, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 10 — Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 15 — Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 16 — at Boston Latin, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 19 — Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 23 — Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 25 — at Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.

Head Coach: David Hughes (3rd year, career record: 38-2).

Record Last Year: 17-1, MVC champion; Division 1 North finalist.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

(Home Matches at Dunn Gym)

APRIL

- 5 — at Methuen, 4 p.m.
- 7 — at St. John's Prep, 5:30 p.m.
- 10 — Lawrence, 5 p.m.
- 12 — Chelmsford, 5 p.m.
- 13 — at Billerica, 4 p.m. (James Gym)
- 19 — at Lowell, 4 p.m. (Abraham Gym)
- 21 — at Dracut, 4 p.m.
- 24 — Central Catholic, 5 p.m.
- 26 — at Haverhill, 4 p.m.

MAY

- 1 — Methuen, 5 p.m.
- 3 — St. John's Prep, 5 p.m.
- 5 — at Lawrence, 4 p.m.
- 8 — at Chelmsford, 5:30 p.m. (Conrad Gym)
- 10 — Billerica, 5 p.m.
- 11 — Lowell, 5 p.m.
- 15 — Dracut, 5 p.m.
- 17 — at Central Catholic, 5:30 p.m.
- 18 — Haverhill, 5 p.m.

Head Coach: George Sullivan (19th year, career record: 244-116).

JV Coach: Dave Kuykendahl.

Record Last Year: 17-6.

BOYS TRACK

(Home Meets at Lovely Field)

APRIL

- 11 — Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 15 — at Haverhill Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
- 19 — at MVC Relays, 9:30 a.m. (at Chelmsford High)
- 26 — Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 30 — at State Track Coaches Relays, 9:30 a.m., site TBA

MAY

- 3 — at Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 5 — at MVC Freshman/Sophomore Meet, 3:45 p.m. (at Methuen)
- 10 — Lowell, 3:30 p.m.
- 13 — Andover Boosters Invitational, 10 a.m.
- 16 — Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 19 — at MVC JV Meet, 4 p.m. (at Chelmsford)
- 20 — MVC Championship Meet, 4 p.m. (at Lovely Field)
- 27 — State Division 1 Meet, 9:30 a.m. (at St. John's Prep, Danvers)

JUNE

- 3 — at All-State Meet, 9 a.m.

Head Coach: Peter Comeau.

Assistant Coaches: Art Iworsley, Brenda Clark-Warne, Phil Capodilupo, Craig Hartwell.

Record Last Year: 4-0, MVC Division 1 champion.

GIRLS TRACK

(Home Meets at Lovely Field)

APRIL

- 11 — Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 15 — at Tewksbury Invitational, 10 a.m.
- 19 — MVC Relays, 9:30 a.m. (at Chelmsford High)
- 26 — Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 30 — at State Track Coaches Relays, 9:30 a.m., site TBA

MAY

- 3 — at Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 6 — at MVC Freshman/Sophomore Meet, 9:30 a.m. (at Haverhill Stadium)
- 10 — Lowell, 3:30 p.m.
- 13 — Andover Boosters Invitational, 10 a.m.
- 16 — Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 19 — at MVC JV Meet, 4 p.m. (at Tewksbury)
- 20 — MVC Championship Meet, 4 p.m. (at Lovely Field)
- 27 — State Division 1 Meet, 9:30 a.m. (at St. John's Prep, Danvers)

JUNE

- 3 — at All-State Meet, 9 a.m.

Head Coach: Peter Comeau (8th year).

Assistant Coaches: Art Iworsley, Brenda Clark-Warne, Phil Capodilupo, Craig Hartwell.

Record Last Year: 3-1.

FRESHMAN BASEBALL

(Home Games at West Middle School)

APRIL

- 6 — at North Andover, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 13 — Billerica, 3:30 p.m.
- 19 — Tewksbury, 11 a.m.
- 21 — at Chelmsford, 11 a.m.
- 24 — Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 26 — at Dracut, 3:30 p.m.
- 28 — at Lowell, 3:30 p.m.

MAY

- 1 — Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 3 — at Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 8 — Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 10 — at Lawrence, 3:30 p.m.
- 11 — at Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 15 — Lowell, 3:30 p.m.
- 17 — at Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 18 — North Andover, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 23 — at Tewksbury, 3:30 p.m.

Coach: Rich Robinson.

FRESHMAN SOFTBALL

(Home Games at West Middle School)

APRIL

- 6 — at North Andover, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 13 — Billerica, 3:30 p.m.
- 19 — Tewksbury, 11 a.m.
- 21 — at Chelmsford, 11 a.m.
- 24 — Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 26 — at Dracut, 3:30 p.m.
- 28 — at Lowell, 3:30 p.m.

MAY

- 1 — Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 3 — at Haverhill, 3:30 p.m.
- 8 — Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 10 — at Lawrence, 3:30 p.m.
- 11 — at Central Catholic, 3:30 p.m.
- 15 — Lowell, 3:30 p.m.
- 17 — at Methuen, 3:30 p.m.
- 18 — North Andover, 3:30 p.m. (non-league)
- 23 — at Tewksbury, 3:30 p.m.

Coach: Dick Loschi.

BOYS FRESHMAN LACROSSE

APRIL

- 4 — at Natick, 4 p.m.
- 6 — Billerica, 4 p.m.
- 8 — at North Andover, 4 p.m.
- 13 — Chelmsford, 4 p.m.
- 18 — North Andover, 4 p.m.
- 24 — Winchester, 4 p.m.
- 28 — at Beverly, 4 p.m.

MAY

- 1 — at Xaverian Brothers, 4 p.m.
- 4 — at Billerica, 4 p.m.
- 8 — Beverly, 4 p.m.
- 11 — Wellesley, 4 p.m.
- 13 — Reading, 10 a.m.
- 15 — at Concord-Carlisle, 4 p.m.
- 18 — at Chelmsford, 4 p.m.
- 23 — Waltham, 4 p.m.
- 24 — at Winchester, 4 p.m.

Head Coach: Doug Chernovetz.

GIRLS FRESHMAN LACROSSE

APRIL

- 10 — at Peabody, 3:45 p.m.
- 13 — Arlington, 4 p.m.
- 25 — at North Andover, 3:45 p.m.
- 27 — at Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.

MAY

- 1 — Billerica, 3:30 p.m.
- 3 — at Arlington, 4 p.m.
- 5 — at Phillips Academy, 3:30 p.m.
- 9 — North Andover, 3:45 p.m.
- 12 — Winchester, 4 p.m.
- 15 — Peabody, 3:45 p.m.
- 17 — Chelmsford, 3:30 p.m.
- 19 — at Billerica, 3:30 p.m.
- 25 — at Winchester, 4 p.m.

Head Coach: Katie Rurak.

ANDOVER TOWNSMAN

Spring tryouts and practices starting this week at AHS

Andover High spring sports teams are out in force this week for the start of tryouts and practices.

AHS will again field varsity teams in baseball, softball, girls track, boys track, girls tennis, boys tennis, girls lacrosse, boys lacrosse and boys volleyball.

Most teams will begin regular season play either the first or second week of April.

— Rick Harrison

Dr. Sobrado and the health care providers at Community Medical Associates are pleased to announce that Dr. James A. Cheverie has joined the practice.

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Letters to the Editor, **Andover Townsman**, March 16, 2006

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SPORTS TALK

By Rick Harrison

This column, compiled from information supplied by the colleges or by friends and relatives of the student-athletes, youth standouts and coaches involved, is published periodically in the Townsman. Information may be mailed to the office at 33 Chestnut St., Andover, 01810; or faxed to 978-470-2819.

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Several Phillips Academy boys ice hockey players will participate in the 29th annual Hockey Night in Boston All-Scholastic Tournament this weekend, March 25-26, at the Salem, N.H. Icenter.

Phillips players on the Mass. Privates/Independent School League team are forwards **John Paul Martignetti**, post-graduate **Paul Scola** and junior **Joe Smith**.

The seven teams in the prestigious tournament will each play a series of four 30-minute mini-games this Saturday between 4-11 p.m. at the Icenter.

The Mass. Privates/ISL games are at 6 p.m. versus Mass. Public/Catholic, 7 p.m. versus New England, 8 p.m. versus EJHL Junior Selects and 10 p.m. versus New York/Mid-Atlantic.

The tournament banquet will be held Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Wyndham Hotel in Andover.

The top four teams after Saturday's games will meet in the semifinals Sunday at 3 p.m., while the bottom three will square off in three consolation games.

The semifinal winners play for the tourney title Saturday night at the Icenter's Olympic Rink.

Tickets are \$10 per day for adults, \$5 for students and will be available at the box office.

Arguably the best scholastic ice hockey showcase in the country, the HNIB event features 160 of the top high school age players including 65 of the Northeast's best Juniors, 65 outstanding Prep/Private chosen

from more than 70 schools, and 30 premier New England Public/Catholic All-Stars.

Each year the tournament is attended by numerous NHL and college scouts, with a handful of players being drafted by the pros each year (in July) or offered college scholarships based upon their performance.

For further information call the HNIB Offices in North Andover at 978-682-2425 or visit the websites at www.HNIBNews.com and www.hockeynightinbostoninc.com.

Talented brothers **Chris** and **Greg Vetrano**, sharpshooting hoop clones who between them scored more than 3,100 points for Andover High boys varsity basketball teams, will both play roundball for St. Anselm College in Manchester, N.H. next winter.

Chris, who spent his first two collegiate years at Division 1 University of New Hampshire, has transferred to Division 2 St. A's of the Northeast-10 Conference. He is the first and only 2,000-point scorer at AHS.

Greg, who graduates from Andover High this spring, scored his 1,000th career point during the recently-completed season.

If both are healthy, the chances of the long-range sniping guards playing together in the Hawks' backcourt for the next two years are excellent.

Bob Pierce of Andover, a senior at St. John's Prep in Danvers, backboned the SJP boys ice hockey team to a second-place finish in the recently-com-

pleted MIAA Division 1 North Tournament.

The goaltender posted a 12-9-3 record and 2.38 goals-against average this winter for the Eagles, who battled to the Division 1 final before bowing 2-1 to Marshfield in the title game at the TD Banknorth Garden in Boston.

Boston University freshman hockey player **John McCarthy**, an Andover native, scored the first goal for the Terriers (his second of the season) in BU's exciting 2-1 overtime victory against archrival Boston College in the recent Hockey East championship game at TD Banknorth Garden.

Ironically, McCarthy banked the puck off the shoulder of BC goaltender **Cory Schneider** who played his hockey at and graduated from Phillips Academy. Schneider was named to the All-Tournament Team.

Ajay Sisodia of Andover was a senior sprinter and captain on the Wheaton College men's indoor track and field team this winter.

Sisodia, a captain for the third time, is the most decorated athlete on the current Wheaton squad.

In 2004, Sisodia earned All-America honors indoors in the 400 meter dash and as a member of the 4x400 relay team.

He is also a three-time New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference first-team All-Conference choice, thanks to top-two finishes in the 100-, 200- and 400-meter dashes, the 4x100- and 4x400 meter relays and the long jump.

"We brought in athletes that have run faster times than Ajay - but they only did it once," said 12th-year Wheaton head coach Paul Souza. "He comes out to practice and routinely beats

those guys because he's a more mature runner and understands how to run and how to prepare.

"Ajay has gotten better each year in terms of technique, learning the events and how they should be run."

Wheaton opened the indoor season at the Dartmouth College Relays.

At the Tufts Invitational, Sisodia was the lone winner for the Wheaton men as he defended his 200 meter dash title at the event with a 22.22 time that was 0.42 seconds faster than last year.

He also ran a leg for the second-place 4x200 sprint relay that fell a split-second shy of the school record while posting a 1:31.32 clocking.

At the University of Rhode Island Sorlien Invitational, Sisodia won the 400-meter dash in 50.25 seconds.

At the non-scoring Boston University Terrier Classic, Sisodia was 11th in the 500 meters (1:05.09) and he ran a leg on the 12th-place 4x400 meter relay (3:22.67). His 500 time was just 0.13 off the Wheaton school record.

In the sixth annual New Balance Collegiate Invitational held over a two-day period at the New York City Armory, Sisodia ran the 400 meters in 49.63 which was only 0.43 off an NCAA provisional time.

In the 200 meters he finished just 0.62 seconds off a school record in 22.54.

At the Boston University Valentine Invitational, Sisodia broke the school record (which was re-broken minutes later) in the 200 meters with a 21.88 clocking for 10th place.

He also came up with an NCAA provisional qualifying time of 48.90 in the 400 meters.

At the George Mason University Collegiate Open, Sisodia placed second in the 400 meters (50.01) and ran the third leg for the victorious 4x400 meter relay (3:21.62).

In the All-New England Divisions 1-3 Championship Meet at Boston University, Sisodia surpassed NCAA provisional qualifying standards in the 400 meters and set a new personal-best collegiate mark of 48.21 seconds.

Continued on page 21

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Andover High School head track-and-field coach **Peter Comeau**, a former 300-meter intermediate hurdles State and New England champion while at AHS two decades ago, has been selected as the 2005 Massachusetts Boys and Girls Coach of the Year.

Comeau was recognized for the achievement at the 32nd annual New England Track and Field Coaches clinic last weekend, March 17-18, in Framingham.

His boys varsity team is undefeated in dual meets over the last two years, both indoors and outdoors. The Golden Warriors won Merrimack Valley Conference championships and placed fifth in the State Meet.

The boys indoor 4x200 sprint relay team recently won State and New England titles in that event.

His girls varsity teams also posted winning records and captured the State Relay title indoors, went undefeated outdoors last spring on the way to MVC Division 1, State Division 1 and All-State titles.

In accepting the prestigious award, Comeau thanked his mentor and longtime former AHS head football and track coach, Dick Collins.

He also lauded the work of assistant track coaches Art Iworsley, Brenda Clark-Warne, Craig Hartwell, Phil Capodilupo and Todd Collins.

He also praised the more than 200 student-athletes who comprised the track and field teams, along with their parents, and commended the support received from athletic directors Dave Nichols, Brian McNally and the Andover High administration headed by principal Peter Anderson.

Comeau and his wife Susan are the parents of four children, daughter Courtney and sons Joey, Mike and Matt.



Peter Comeau

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Oppenheim enjoys tour circuit win

Andover pro golfer Rob Oppenheim shot a 4-under par 68, then birdied the first playoff hole with a 25-foot putt, to win the recent Yes! Golf Barton Creek Classic Canadian Golf Tour event in Austin, Texas.

Oppenheim, 26, a former Andover High and Rollins College star who has been stellar on the Cleveland and Canadian

Tours the past few years while also attempting to earn his PGA card, beat three other golfers in the playoff to capture the Barton Creek Challenge and earn the \$16,000 winner's purse.

His 68 tied Oppenheim with Jim Rutledge, Craig Kanada and former PGA Tour pro Omar Uresti at 11-under 271 for the tournament.

Oppenheim, whose dad Jim was his caddy, birdied three of the final four holes in regulation including a tricky 20-foot slider on the par-3 17th to set the stage for the win.

The leaders moved back to the par-4 18th tee to begin the playoff and all four found the green in two.

After Uresti and Kanada

missed long birdie putts, Oppenheim made his clutch 25-footer. Rutledge then stepped up and just missed a putt from 20 feet that would have extended the playoff.

"On the final few holes I was just looking to improve my standing," said Oppenheim, who entered the final round four strokes behind leader Kanada. "Winning the golf tournament never really crossed my mind."

"I've been in contention a

few times before, and I knew I could win out here. To get a win under my belt this early in the year feels good.

"It was a great field this week – and to come out on top is special," said Oppenheim.

During the winter, Oppenheim lost a pair of mini-tour playoffs in Florida, something he admits was on his mind as overtime loomed in this one. But Oppenheim's father, Jim, had some basic rallying words for his son.

"My dad told me 'It's about

time you win one of these things,'" he said with a smile.

Oppenheim opened play yesterday (Wednesday), after *Townsmen* presstime, in the 2006 Northern California Classic at Brookside Country Club in Stockton, Calif.

The event is part of the Canadian Professional Golf Tour.

Portions of the above story were reprinted from the *Townsmen* account on the official Canadian Tour Web site and Oppenheim's personal Web site.

SPORTS TALK

■ AJAY SISODIA

Continued from page 20

He also helped set a new school record (3:16.20) in the 4x400 relay, eclipsing the two-year-old mark by 0.13 seconds. He ran the first leg on the 2004 relay and ran the anchor leg on this year's team that broke the record.

The new time met NCAA provisional qualifying standards.

At Yale University's Last Chance Qualifier, Sisodia and the 4x400 broke their own school mark by almost three seconds with a 3:13.31 trial heat time.

Sisodia was also the top Division 3 athlete in the 400 meters, his 48.48 clocking a provisional qualifier for the national meet.

The NCAA Division 3 Championship Meet is scheduled for Saint Olaf College in

Northfield, Minn.

Jon Gurry of Andover, a starting defender on the Avon Old Farms School boys soccer team, helped that squad win the New England Prep School championship last fall.

Avon edged Phillips Exeter, 1-0, in the title game which marked the second time Gurry had been on a prep school soccer titlist.

Gurry, also a member of the Andover Attack squad that won the Under-12 state championship several years ago, captured his first prep school title as a freshman at Brooks School in North Andover (which defeated Phillips Andover in the 2003 final).

Gurry, who transferred to Avon this past year as a junior, is also on the varsity ice hockey team.

Last winter at Brooks he was

selected for the *Eagle-Tribune* All-Star hockey team and was an Independent School League first-team star in hockey.

Nate Efinger of Andover is a senior member of the Ohio Wesleyan men's indoor track team.

The Governor Dummer Academy (Byfield) graduate is a decathlete, finishing second in the decathlon in last year's North Coast Athletic Conference Championship meet.

He is a consistent scorer in the long jump, 100-meter dash, triple jump and 400 meter hurdles.

At the Denison Lid-Lifter, a non-scoring meet, Efinger placed second in the 55-meter dash, long jump, triple jump and third in the pole vault.

At the NCAC Relays, he helped the Bishops to the team title for the second straight year with a 20'8 1/2" long jump, an

11'6" height in the pole vault and a strong leg for the third-place 800 meter relay team.

Jonathan Swift of Andover is a junior forward on the Hobart College men's hockey team, skating first line for the Statesmen who defeated Norwich University 3-1 in Northfield, Vt. recently to advance to the NCAA Division 3 Final Four Tournament in Elmira, N.Y.

Middlebury won the national title.

Steve Seero of Andover passed out two assists, had three shots on net and collected one ground ball as he helped the host Assumption College men's lacrosse team square its early-season record at 1-1 with a 17-1 Northeast-10 Conference romp over visiting American International (AIC) in their game Tuesday afternoon at Worcester.

WHAT'S UP

Java Jam and Hypnocubed

Andover Youth Council plans March 24 and April 1 events

By Kelsey Shaw

ANDOVER YOUTH COUNCIL

Yes, folks, Hypnocubed is back.

The Andover Youth Council is serving up its third helping of hypnotism, madness, and mayhem galore at Hypnocubed on Saturday, April 1.

Not sure if Hypnocubed is for you?

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CaraDonna.

Whether you're on stage under the hypnotist's spell or in the audience watching the scene unfold, it is sure to be a hilarious night for all – for the measly sum of \$7. Doors open at 7:30 at Old Town Hall, 20 Main St., so be there, friends!

And don't forget – tomorrow night is the annual Java Jam, a coffeshop-style night of acoustic music, poetry and art.

See you at Old Town Hall at 7:30.

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Business

Merchants concerned

Businesses not buying Barnard Street shutdown

By Brian Davidson

DOWNTOWN BUSINESS OWNERS might not be able to keep Barnard Street from closing next month, but they don't have to like it.

Barnard Street will be closed for three weeks in April while Bateson Enterprises digs up a section of the street to install utility lines for a building yet to be built.

"You can't dig a hole in the ground and put a guy in there while traffic is driving by," explained Police Chief Brian Pattullo.

During an informational meeting held at Town Offices on Tuesday, Pattullo and Todd Bateson, owner of Bateson Enterprises, were hammered with questions from concerned merchants.

"Why is this happening in our busiest time of year, right when the weather is breaking?" asked a disgruntled Sam Petrovich, who owns Dylan's Bar and Grill on Park Street. "Why not in July and August, when our sales go down by 30 percent? If the building isn't going to be occupied for another year, why can't this phase be done another time?"

Bateson said Lally Real Estate, the company that hired him to do the job, determined the construction schedule.

Lally owns the vacant 17-19 Barnard St., where the Andover Livery Cab Co. and Harkins Real Estate building stood before burning down in June 2003, and plans to build a two-story, 9,123-square-foot commercial retail building at the site after the necessary utility lines are in place.

Town Planner Lisa Schwarz said Lally was asked by town officials to have the utility lines installed and connected before the Main Street Improvement Project, a downtown beautification effort, gets under way in the upcoming months.

Pattullo said, in the interest of time and safety, the digging on Barnard Street would have to happen during the day, and the section between Main Street and the back of Old Town Hall will be closed 24 hours a day for three weeks.

"If you're only working eight hours a day, why is it closed all 24 hours?" Petrovich asked.

Bateson explained that to move all of their equipment every morning and evening would significantly prolong the project.

He also said the job was too dangerous to do at night, as the location presents a number of obstacles.

"It's a tough spot," Bateson said. "We've got to get through pavement, concrete, cobblestone, and old trolley tracks. And then there's telephone and electric lines — not to mention a 72-inch culvert."

Bateson also said one of the water mains they will need to avoid is more than 100 years old.

"Keep your fingers crossed," he said. "That's an original water main in Andover."

At night, Bateson said, they would have a greater chance at puncturing a line.

"And the suppliers would be closed," he said. "If we hit a gas line, the gas companies wouldn't be open for four hours."

Regardless of merchant complaints, Pattullo and Bateson said the plan to cut into and close Barnard Street in April is final.

"All the contracts have already been signed and it's moving forward," Bateson told those who attended the meeting.

"Then why are we even having this meeting?" asked Stephen Stapinski, of Merrimack Engineering Services, another Park Street business.

Pattullo said the meeting was to inform the public of why the closing is necessary and tell them what is being done to minimize any inconveniences.

"We've required signage to be put up in advance to direct people to parking and detours," he said. "I'd be surprised if after a couple of days, once people get the lay of the land, there will be any big impact. But if there is, we'll just make adjustments."

Bateson said the project is also benefiting the town by providing a free upgrade in utilities.

"We're adding an 8-inch water line where there is only an inch-and-a-half water line now," he said, "allowing other Barnard Street buildings to hook sprinklers in, and eliminating a dead-end water line."

When the project is complete, the water line will loop around the back of Old Town Hall, go up Park Street, and reconnect to Main Street. "We want to get this done just as quickly as the business owners (do)," said Bateson.

Concerned merchants and residents can attend another informational meeting on the third floor of Town Offices on Wednesday, March 29, at 8 a.m.



The Townsman goes to Torino! Ballardvale's Doug White, MSPT, L/ATC, CSCS of White's Physical Therapy, LLC holds a copy of the Andover Townsman while attending the XXth Olympic Winter Games in Turin, Italy last month. White helped athletes during the winter games in Salt Lake City four years ago.

Renewing Olympic connections

Vale sports medicine specialist goes to Torino

DOUG WHITE, of White's Physical Therapy LLC, an Andover resident from Ballardvale, revisited the Olympic Games in Torino, Italy.

White, who has a master's degree in physical therapy as well as several other advanced degrees, served as medical volunteer in the Atlanta Paralympics in 1996, and was sports medicine director with the USA Skeleton Team leading up to the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City.

White was accompanied by business associate Ken Johnson, a 2002 and '04 medical volunteer, and Peter O'Donoghue, a pilot for the '98 and '02 Irish

Men's Bobsleigh Team. "We went to offer professional support to the New Zealand Men's Bobsleigh Team, but with few injuries and, fortunately, no accidents — there was little for us to do."

As it turned out, he explained, it was refreshing to experience the games without the pressure of being part of the team or having the responsibility of team performance.

This Torino visit was more like an alumni gathering, he said. "It was great to catch up with all the athletes and coaches I had worked with four years before," said White. "It was great to renew those old friendships."

The three men, with many different Olympic experiences behind them, all agreed that this Olympics renewed their energy. White explained that as part of the medical staff, a volunteer, or part of the team, there is a fraternal spirit of being part of a bigger international organization.

"There just aren't that many people involved at this level, so it really becomes a small world."

For information about retaining White's Olympic Level Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine services, contact him at his office inside RMA Fitness at 978-658-5556.

Furey joins Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage of New England announced that Janice Furey has joined the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office in Andover as a realtor.

Furey will provide residential real estate services in Andover as well as the surrounding communities of North Andover,

Boxford, Methuen, Haverhill and Lawrence.

Furey has been a licensed real estate broker since 1996 and holds the national designation of ABR, Accredited Buyer Representative. Prior to coming to Coldwell Banker, she worked at Prudential Howe & Doherty in Andover. A full-time professional with years of real estate experience, she is proficient in

all areas of real estate including single family homes, first-time home buyers, new construction, land, condos, and multi-level homes, according to the company.

"A lifelong resident of Andover, Furey's extensive knowledge of the Andover area, her participation in local schools and community activities, and her years of real estate experi-

ence make her a valuable asset to the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage team," said Cathy McCarthy of the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office in Andover. "We look forward to watching Janice continue to succeed in her career."

Furey lives in Andover with her husband, Dennis, and her three children, Joseph, Shawn and Brittany.

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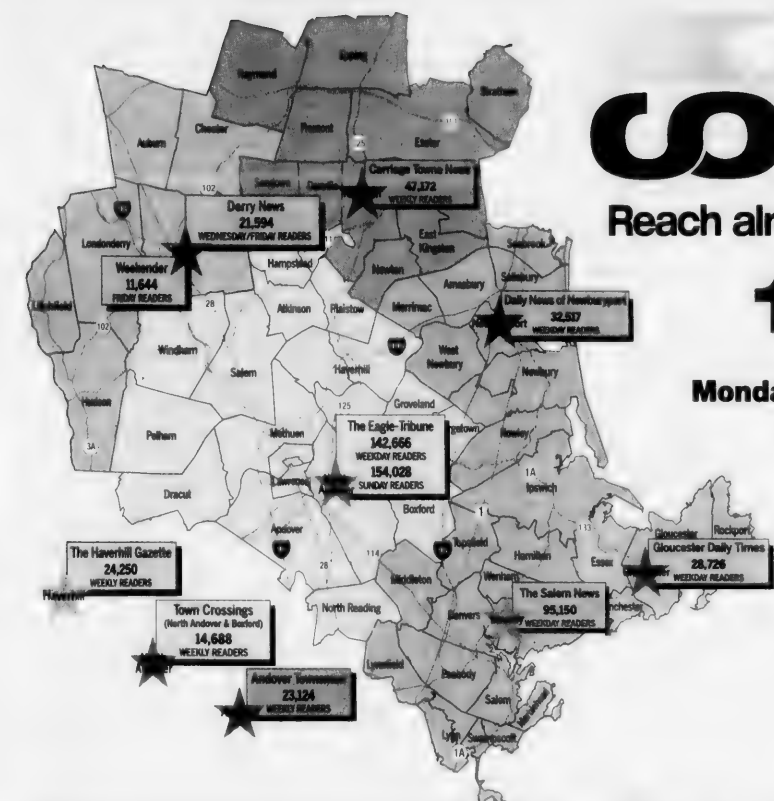
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Important tips for most readers

- Make your ad easy for readers to find by KEYWORDING. Begin by clearly describing the item or service you're offering. (Ex: Store, rather than Kenmore).
- Capture attention with a large headline or graphic.
- Sell your item or service by highlighting what's special about it. Provide details (color, condition, etc.) that make potential customers want to call.
- Always include price. This increases average response rate by more than 50%.
- We don't use abbreviations. They make your ad harder to read and less effective.
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JOBS-SALES

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The Eagle-Tribune
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93 Trades/Industrial

Carpenter Framers
With 5-10 yrs experience.
Must have own transportation.
Call 978-423-4664.

Carpenter/Laborer
LABORER TO LEARN CARPENTER trade & experienced CARPENTER for high end custom building. Own transportation. Benefits package. Send resume to attention Human Resources, P.O. Box 733, Rowley, MA 01969.

CARPENTER
MA License

Full-time carpenter wanted to perform repair & maintenance at multiple sites. Personal transportation, tools & equipment required. Professional appearance, first class quality work expected. Send resumes to attention Human Resources, P.O. Box 488, Andover, MA 01810. No telephone calls.

CARPENTERS Experienced. Needed for full time work, year round. Framing to Finish. Call Joe at 978-927-5615 or email j15055@aol.com

Carpenters & Laborers

Wanted for Southern N.H. construction company for upcoming season. Must have own transportation. 603-434-5704

CNC SET-UP Person for short run fast-paced production. Personality & work quality important. Apply at www.daltonco.com.

Commercial HVAC Tech

Commercial Comfort Service is seeking a Commercial Service Technician with a minimum of 3 years of service experience and a clean driving record. Our benefits include company van, health insurance, prescriptions, company funded retirement plan, holidays, vacation, sick pay, merit & salary review. Resumes are accepted at 978-451-7272 or email at vz393n@verizon.net or simply call 978-451-5954.

Commercial Site Construction

Openings for Heavy Equipment Operator & Laborers. With experience in site & utility work. Excellent wages & benefits. Call 978-462-4050.

DEALER

Must be licensed. FT own transportation. Email: resumes@environmentaldiverz.com

Drivers Wanted!!

Northeast Nursery in Peabody, MA is looking for both CDL and Non CDL Drivers!! Full and Part time positions available!! Must have minimum of 2 years experience driving commercial trucks. Current DOT Physical. Position requires general labor, material handling (\$9-\$15) Contact us at: hr@northeastnursery.com or 978-854-4468

HVAC

Installers & Service Techs. Experience a must!! Rate of pay depends on experience. Great benefits & work environment. 1-800-394-5550

HVAC

Leading mechanical contractor seeks service technicians. Service Technicians must have a minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Join our team of experienced, respected professionals. Qualified candidates receive competitive pay, comprehensive benefits package including profit sharing & 401k with co match. Fax resume to 978-774-2995 or apply on line: www.breanandsullivan.com or call 978-777-1114 Bob ext 614

Irrigation Manager

Opening exists with 1 of the oldest & largest irrigation contractors for a person with a minimum of 5 years experience on residential, commercial irrigation. Excellent opportunity for growth. Must be a creative team leader. Excellent salary & benefits package. Call Davis Landscaping Inc. 978-462-4050.

Irrigation Service Techs

35 year old irrigation contractor has openings for 2 additional service techs. Minimum 3 years experience. Must be very quality minded & customer oriented. Top wages & benefits. Call Davis Landscaping Inc. 978-462-4050

Mechanic Site & Utility Foreperson

Gradall Operator. Experience required for all positions. Great benefits. Apply online at www.imasterson.com/jobs in person: J. Masterson Construction, 46 Prince St., Danvers, MA or fax 978-759-8046

LANDSCAPING

Working supervisor, fully experienced grounds maintenance dept. Fluent in English/Spanish. Year round. 978-535-1227 x 5

Lawn Service

Crew Chief/Landscape Lead Person, North Shore area. Hatcher Landscaping 978-526-1405

Paver & Roller Operators & CDL Truck Driver

Needed with experience. Residential paving. Call 978-352-8973

PLUMBER

1st or 2nd year Journeyman needed. Own tools. Company vehicle provided. 978-418-9383

Stone Masons

With minimum of 3 years experience & references. Must be able to work with fieldstone & all other hardscape applications. Good pay for the right people. 978-768-6282

Decorative Plumbing

Showroom Sales. Sales Plumbing Supply. Designer Bath showroom seeks an ambitious, self motivated individual with a minimum of 5 years high end showroom sales experience to join our sales staff. Friendly atmosphere. Outstanding earning potential. Base and commission. Plus we offer a comprehensive benefits package. Email your resume to resumes@salemplumbing.com or fax your resume to 978-921-1556.

91 Sales

Competitive Team Player Needed
Looking for highly motivated people wanting to make \$12.50-\$15.00/hr.
Call Deacon 978-580-5592

FURNITURE Sales

Experienced - Commission plus salary, good benefits. Londonderry, NH. Fax resume to: 603-434-0221

HOME THEATER ELECTRONIC INSTALLERS

Passionate audio video candidates must be familiar with wiring procedures. Must have good driving record. Previous work related experience. Russell, Xan-X, Swocker Craft system, Front Projection System, Plasma and LCD. Must be good with hand and power tools. Windows XP knowledge. CEDIA installer or equivalent training required. Email and/or electronic resume to andv@electroniclifestyle.com or fax 603-870-5369

HOME THEATER SALES

Passionate and Goal Driven candidates need only apply. Custom Home Theater company seeks individuals looking for industry excellence and great income potential. Must be passionate about home electronics and have the knowledge of theater system, distributed AV and great customer skills. Great commissions. Email resume to andv@electroniclifestyle.com or fax 603-870-5369

NIGHT OWLS

15 part time salespeople in professional office needed Friday and Saturday, 10 p.m.-4 a.m. 6 week pilot program, will continue if successful. Answer phones for informatics, selling nutritional supplements. Training provided. Call John Haines, 978-299-2230.

SALES

Full time sales position in a health club setting in South NH. Experience preferred. Call 978-502-3040

91A Sales/Detail

APPLY TODAY!
Entry Level Floor Covering SALES POSITION
Friendly, energetic, loyal & dependable a must!
Join the team at HASTINGS
919 Salem St., Groveland, MA

93 General

ALL HOURS

\$20 base appointment, ages 17+, conditions apply. Sales/Service 978-774-7700. Filled by Thurs. call now

APPOINTMENT SETTERS

Part time days & nights. \$7-\$12/hr. Call Melissa 603-870-9596 (Salem, NH)

Amel Mfg. Co.

Looking for responsible detail oriented team member who excels in multi-tasking. This is a FT position, some moderate to heavy lifting required. Apply in person: 126 Rear Water Street, Danvers, MA.

AUTO CLEANERS

The Sun & BMW Peabody has FT positions for Auto Cleaners/detail. Great benefits! Must have valid driver's license. Contact Wayne 978-532-8343. EOE/DFW/Free

Auto Detailing

CAR WASH Attendant. Experienced, for New car wash at the Andover/Tewksbury, MA line. Call Marcos, 978-360-8343

AVON !!

Career or Pocket money! The choice is yours!! 1-800-258-1815

BAKER

Part time early mornings. Food service experience & references required. \$10-\$12/hr. health insurance available. Apply in person 2pm-5pm: Bruni's Market, Ipswich, 978-356-9381

Bakery Production

FT weekdays in Peabody. Food experience helpful but not required. 978-532-3400.

Building & Grounds Superintendent

Part-Time, For Topsfield/Batford Church. Primarily cleaning & some light maintenance on needed. inventory control and ordering of cleaning supplies. Keeping exterior of building picked up, shovel walk in winter.

Approx. 20 hrs/week. Call Jane Dickinson 978-777-2778 for interview

93 General

Eagle-Tribune Publishing Company

LEAD SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN - The Eagle-Tribune

Full time. Provide operational systems support. Troubleshoot and repair server, printer application and telephone issues. Document and track problem resolution procedures. 5 to 7 years technical experience required. The hours of this position are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. On call status for after hours support required. Please e-mail resume and cover letter with salary requirements to hr@eagletribune.com.

WEB COORDINATOR - The Eagle-Tribune

Part time. Process news and advertising content for online publications using scripts, under the direction of the Director of Internet Operations. Ideal candidate must have 1-2 years experience with HTML, and the ability to start and monitor scripts to process web content. Knowledge of JavaScript, DHTML and the PERL language is a plus. Hours are Monday through Wednesday 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Sat. 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please e-mail resume and cover letter with salary requirements to hr@eagletribune.com.

DRIVERS - The Eagle-Tribune

Full time. Positions available delivering bundles to stores and vending machines in the North Andover, Lawrence, Methuen and Salem, N.H. area. Applicants must have a valid license, be dependable, have a safe driving record, be at least 21 years old, and be able to pass a D.O.T. physical exam. Some moderate lifting is involved. Full time hours are Wednesday through Friday 3:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 2 a.m. to 8 a.m. Please stop by one of our office locations or e-mail resume to hr@eagletribune.com.

Comprehensive benefits package offered to all full-time (30+ hours) employees. For consideration, please e-mail resume and cover letter with salary requirements to hr@eagletribune.com. Resumes received without salary requirements will not be considered. Applications may also be obtained in the lobby of The Eagle-Tribune, at 100 Turnpike Street, North Andover, Massachusetts 01845, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

93 General

BARBERS Experienced. Preferably with clientele. Apply within: Blades Barber Shop, 4 Railroad St., Haverhill, MA. No calls please.

BOOM TRUCK DRIVER

PT MECHANIC Eastern Lumber Co. 978-621-9280

CAPELLINI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT now hiring:

WAITSTAFF
Lunch Shifts Available. Apply in person: 126 Merrimack St., Methuen

CARETAKER

Full time professional, live in Caretaker sought for private estate in Manchester, MA. Grounds keeping, building maintenance, pools, vehicles, etc. Resumes and references to: GPARETAKER@hotmail.com or call 978-767-1160.

CASHIER

Dependable people needed P/T nights for busy package store. Must be able to work weekends. Apply in person: 158 Andover St. (across from Ira Toyota), Danvers, MA

CASHIERS

Part Time - Full Time, nights and weekends. Apply in person to manager: Rocky's Ace Hardware, 50 Peters St. N. Andover, MA

CASHIERS/STOCK OR DELI

For busy Seabrook, NH convenience/gas & food operation on Route 107. Seeking "A FEW GOOD PEOPLE" who would like a steady job, full and part time. Weekends a must. Bonuses, benefits available. Great environment. Come join the fun! Call Jen or Lee 603-474-2722 or fax resume 603-94-8035.

CDL-A Driver

Flatbed experience, and a good driving record a must. Contact Chris, 603-234-6347

CDL A DRIVERS

Over the road & local work. Flatbed experience. Call 603-394-7000

CDL Class A Team and Solo Drivers

Minimum ONE year experience OTR. Good work history and MVR. Call for details 888-736-4879 www.van-pac.com NECAN

CHEMICAL PRODUCTION

Manufacturer of FDA regulated dyes & stains for his topography seeks FT production technician. History of experience a plus. Full benefits. Fax resume 978-739-5640 or email hr@rowleybio.com

Chiropractic Office

Looking for team member to help with public relations. No experience needed. Flexible hours. \$10/hour + incentives. Fax resume: 978-468-4393

CORINTHIAN YACHT CLUB HIRING

For the SEASON
• Houseperson
• Servers for Dining and Functions Wed-Sun.
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Our private club on Marblehead Neck offers training, competitive wages and a professional fun atmosphere where team work is crucial. If you are available to work evenings & weekends call Dave Titus (781) 631-0005 ext. 204

93 General

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Service Advisors

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93 General

Eagle-Tribune Publishing Company

LEAD SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN - The Eagle-Tribune

Full time. Provide operational systems support. Troubleshoot and repair server, printer application and telephone issues. Document and track problem resolution procedures. 5 to 7 years technical experience required. The hours of this position are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. On call status for after hours support required. Please e-mail resume and cover letter with salary requirements to hr@eagletribune.com.

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Comprehensive benefits package offered to all full-time (30+ hours) employees. For consideration, please e-mail resume and cover letter with salary requirements to hr@eagletribune.com. Resumes received without salary requirements will not be considered. Applications may also be obtained in the lobby of The Eagle-Tribune, at 100 Turnpike Street, North Andover, Massachusetts 01845, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

93 General

CONTRACT LABORERS April-Oct., laying decorative concrete borders, Mon-Sat. Drivers license & able to speak English. 978-420-2283

Crosby's Markets

FT P/T Deli positions available in several locations. Great work environment. Apply in person: 3 Summer St., Manchester, MA.

Daily Bagel Cafe

Counter Help, Food Prep and Assistant Managers. Up to \$12/hr. Apply in person: Cummings Center Beverly, MA

Dunkin' Donuts

Counter Help. All shifts. Apply at 282 Derby St., Salem, MA. Mon-Fri. 978-744-477

DANCERS WANTED

Earn \$600 - \$2,000 + a week. Will Train. 888-999-5839

DANVERS SCHOOL LUNCH

P/T Van Driver (Some lifting required) 8:30 - 11:30 School Schedule. Call Mr. Powers for interview 978-792-X288

DIET AIDE

Weekend Bagel shift 24 hrs. get paid \$2. Rainbow Nursing Home 978-531-2499

Dog Wash

PT help needed to Do It Your self Dog Wash in Salisbury, MA. Must work well with dogs & people. Call 978-346-9857 for more info.

DRIVER CDL-A

PLUS hazard for long haul. Good driving record required. Please call Donata 781-999-3603

DRIVER CLASS A DUMP TRAILER

With experience, full time, nights, beginning mid April. Call 781-389-2655

Driver Part Time

Dependable for early AM delivery. Use company van. Apply in person Danvers News Agency 39 Maple St., Danvers, MA

DRIVER

Septic Company on the North Shore looking for a full time PUMP TRUCK driver to operate a "State of the Art" truck. Must hold a Class A or B License with a tanker endorsement. Flexible Mon-Fri work schedule. 978-356-5638

CALL TODAY!

EXPERIENCED MAINTENANCE WORKER

A multi location organization with 30+ work sites North of Boston, seeks an experienced person to perform maintenance & minor repair of buildings, electrical & plumbing systems. Flexible Mon-Fri work schedule (30-40 hrs. wk.) with occasional on-call hours. Experience working in building maintenance or construction necessary. Must be able to multi task & work independently. Knowledge of basic mechanical systems, carpentry, plumbing & electrical systems a must. Some occasional moderate to heavy lifting. Salary \$17,500/yr. depending on experience. Valid Drivers License is required. Send confidential letter of interest to: Maintenance Position, P.O. Box 294, Seabrook, NH 03874

93 General

Hawthorne Hotel

Full Charge Bookkeeper
• AMPM Line Cooks PT/FT
• Banquet Servers PT
• AMPM Host/Hostess PT
• Restaurant Bartender PT
• Banquet Bartender PT
• Evening Waitstaff PT
• Asst. Banquet Manager
• Sous/Banquet Chef
• Maintenance FT
• Custodian PT
• Banquet Housemen PT
• Housekeeping Inspector FT
• Front Desk Clerk PT

Job Hotline 978-825-4374 Fax 978-741-3553 www.hospitalityonline.com hawthorne

93 General

HOTEL

dining room mgr Emerson Inn By The Sea seeks Experienced professional to Overseas award winning restaurant. Seasonal Salary + Benefits + Bonus. Rockport 978-546-6321

House Cleaners

Monday-Friday, days. Cor need 978-768-6038

Housing Specialist

PT, 20 hours, Entails low income housing development. Understanding grant opportunities. Permitting & zoning experience. Assist with property management. Must be flexible as a member of a housing team. Resumes only by April 5th to: Action, Inc. 180 Main St Gloucester, MA 01930 Attention: Ralph John San Fax: 978-283-0573 EOP

Inventory Takers

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS Night / Weekend / Anytime opening available taking inventory in local retail stores. No experience needed. Paid training, opportunity for advancement. Must be 18 & have reliable transportation. \$9.50/hr to start. College students & others welcome! EOE. For interview call 850-814-8084

Floral Designer / SALES PERSON

Full-time Experienced. Fun fast paced shop. Gloucester 978-282-9582

Food Demonstrators

Immediate openings, Thurs-Sun., you pick the location. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., all local super markets, up to \$10/hour. Call 866-619-6633, ext. 109

FOOTWEAR SALES

Hyman's Pennyworth Shoe Store seeks FT, PT, Sales Associates. Must be self motivated. Call Bob 978-462-2771, Newburyport, MA

FUELER/CLEANER

for small fleet in Peabody, MA. Retirees/others, Mon-Fri. 4-7 p.m. 978-535-227 x5.

GOLD'S GYM

Bradford, MA Now hiring FT Personal Trainers

Experience preferred, but not necessary, we will certify you! Earn up to \$50K/yr. Call Shawn 978-521-4949

Hairstylist, FT/PT

Flexible schedule, competitive wages & paid vacation. Call Laurie at 603-216-7250

HAIRSTYLIST

Merrimack Paul Mitchell signature salon seeks Stylists & Assistants. 978-346-8383

Hairstylist Wanted

In downtown Andover on Main Street. Be your own boss. Chair rentals available. 978-475-7072 or 978-771-8079

Hair/Tan Salon Front Desk

PT 1am-3pm, Mon, Tues, & Thurs. Computer skills required. Call 978-922-2259

Hawthorne Hotel

Full Charge Bookkeeper
• AMPM Line Cooks PT/FT
• Banquet Servers PT
• AMPM Host/Hostess PT
• Restaurant Bartender PT
• Banquet Bartender PT
• Evening Waitstaff PT
• Asst. Banquet Manager

107 Fitness/Sports

SNOWBOARD - Beginner. Needs bindings. \$50/best reasonable offer. 978-686-8990.

SOLOFLEX exercise machine, all attachments \$200. bike couch, Victorian style. \$75. 437-8022 evenings.

TOTAL GYM XL with Pilates kit, brand new - in box, never used, paid \$1700, looking to get at least half \$850, but will take no less than \$800. 603-674-1113.

TREADMILL - Weslo Cadence 45 programmable treadmill. Like new. \$200. Call 603-887-5188.

112 Office Equipment

COPY MACHINE Konica 4345, fully operational, 637K copies on meter, 20 bin sorter, as is. \$300. Sybil 978-229-2200.

LATERAL file cabinets (3), large 3 drawer, gray, \$35 ea. \$130 for 2, \$180 for 3. Call 603-473-3220.

OFFICE FURNITURE & PHOTOGRAPHY Moving, must sell. Best Offer. CALL 603-382-6721 for appointment.

Work Stations: drs, work surface and panels, \$300/ea. 978-686-6933

114 Computer Software

COMPUTER 2000 Gateway, upgraded to 150 MB RAM, tower, keyboard, mouse, video screen, much software. \$250. 978-468-1737

COMPUTER (complete) Pentium 2 350, 5 GBHD 140 RAM, sound, NIC, modem, USB. Installed (2006) - WinXP OfficeXP antivirus 977 978-256-6778 (Chelmsford)

COMPUTER (complete) Pentium II 333, 4GBHD, 160MB RAM, sound, NIC, modem, USB. Installed (2006) - WinXP OfficeXP antivirus 977 978-256-6778 (Chelmsford)

DESKTOP IBM, 10 GB drive, CD burner, CD ROM, monitor, keyboard, mouse, WIN ME, MS Excel, Word, Access. Powerpoint, printer, \$150/best. 781-462-4621, 603-371-7345

MEMORY CARD - VIKING Interworks, 512MB, flash memory card, compatible for cameras, MP3 players, PDA's, smart phones & other devices. \$50. 603-898-9594

MONITOR 19" View Sonic Professional series, PF-790. \$40. 603-382-1371

MONITOR Acer 17" color and HP color printer, both like new, \$35 each, both for \$60. Call 978-485-4949.

MONITOR Gateway, CRT Standard, Perfect condition. \$10 takes it away. Call 978-532-6991.

120 Firewood/Fuels

*******ATTENTION FUEL CONSUMERS*******

All ads in this classification-in our 10 paper "Classified Connection" that covers the North Shore, Merrimack Valley and Southern New Hampshire.

Ads appearing in this section may or may not deliver to this entire market.

Prices may reflect a "Local" delivery area only and may be higher for an extended delivery area.

JIM'S OIL Call for Today's Price 978-531-4447

JOHNS OIL Special Burner Cleanings Oil tanks installed & removed www.johnsoil.com 978-777-4205

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Quality Hardwood Seasoned, green, kiln dried. Delivered. Wolf Hill Inc 978-281-4480 978-556-5342

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FUEL ASSISTANCE CUSTOMERS WELCOME AUTOMATIC DELIVERY

SEASONED FIREWOOD, 18 months old, 16" cut & split, \$24/cord (128 cu ft.) very clean, same day delivery. 978-744-6068

SEASONED Firewood 1 Cord \$265. 1/2 cord \$145. (128 & 64 cu ft.). No. Shore/Merrimack Valley areas. 978-921-2984.

WOOD PELLETS for sale 40 pound bag, \$4.99 per bag. Call 978-590-8658

WOODSTOVE - FREE Thermo Control Model 400. Heats hot water. Call (603) 432-5066

123MA Garage/Yard Sales MA AMESBURY, MA

Open To The Public Sat., 3/25 Only! 9am - 2pm

WHOLESALE FURNITURE SHOWROOM

SPECIAL! Floor Samples at Reduced Rates

110 Haverhill Rd., 978-388-7435 Bunk & Captain's beds bedroom sets, futons & more

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NOW LICENSED IN FL.

123MA Garage/Yard Sales MA

ANDOVER, MA 4 WHOLEFLEET CR. (off Lovejoy Rd.) Rain/Stone Saturday, Mar. 25, 10am-12pm

MOVING SALE: furniture, electronics, tools, electronics

GROVELAND, MA Sat. 3/25, 9-3 PM Veevey Park 201 Washington St. Craters, Antiques, Vendors & All welcome

Tables available. All welcome. Tables available. \$100/best offer. 978-521-9345

HAVERHILL, MA: 1113 W. Lowell Ave. Sat. & Sun. 3/25, 9am-5pm

Moving To Florida bedroom, living room & misc. appliances & furniture

SALEM, MA Sat. 3/25, 9-12, 1 Bryant St. Multi-family yard sale. Household, kitchen, furniture, sporting equipment, great adult clothing & more.

SALISBURY, MA Rings Island, 6 March Road, Fri. & Sat., 8-2.

Gigantic Spring Sale.

123NH Garage/Yard Sales NH MANCHESTER, NH

ANTIQUE FLEA MARKET St. George's Cathedral, 650 Hanover St. Saturday, Mar. 25, 10am-3pm

100 tables - Free admission for more info call 603-622-9113

125 Garden Supplies

Farm Loom Sale 4,000 cu. yards of 10.00 per yard loaded. Drovers area. Bulk discount. 978-488-3888.

FREE FILL SCREENED LOAM \$12/yard. Delivery extra. 978-352-5254

Free Manure Good for Gardens and Mulch. Call 603-442-7723

LAWN MOWER BobCat 4000, walk behind mower, low hours, excellent condition. \$3400. 978-851-2907

Quality Compost Enhanced Loom/Mulch. Call Brick Ends Farm 978-468-3131

Sand & Salt For Sale Miles River Sand & Gravel 64 Paradise Rd., Ipswich, MA 978-536-2290

SCREENED LOAM For sale FOB in Lowell \$100 per ten-wheeler, \$200 per tri-axle, \$250 per trailer 978-0099, 9am-5pm

129 Machinery & Tools

Floor Sanders: Verlhon EZV 3 disc, \$150. ESH SL-1218 \$500. Best excellent condition, no rentals. Call 508-932-0076

JOHN DEERE 410 TRACTOR 2001. Must Sell! 61" bucket, low hours, like new. \$15,200. Evenings 978-388-4197

LAWN TRACTOR 1999, Troy Bilt, 16HP twin hydrostatic drive, 52" mower deck, 52" plow, weights & chains, \$1,500. Call 603-988-3380

Machine Shop Equipment CNC 3 Axis Bed Mill Bridgeport Milling Machine Grob Easy Saw South Bend Lathe Chevalier Precision Surface Grinder

Also: file cabinet, desk & chair, shelves, cabinets, bell sander, chairs, deck plate, Johnson Bar Water Heater and other miscellaneous items. Sell Complete: \$29,000 or best offer. Contact Larry 781-558-6726

POWER TOOLS: Drills press \$125, 2 Mikita jigsaws: \$35 each, skill jigsaw \$40. Nikita table saw \$1,800. Call 978-360-7729

TABLESAW 10" with extensions \$350. Workbench, steel with 525, 16" Scroll Saw \$75. Crosscut Band mill with exercise bars \$225. 978-281-4392

TABLE SAW - Delta 10" Contractor's Saw Model 36-430 mobile base, dust collection. Excellent condition. \$300 best. 978-884-5970 before 8am

131 Musical Instruments

ANTIQUE photograph \$275. Sargent piano \$800, refrigerator for \$100, 4 AC's \$75-\$125. Sat. 2/25 10-12, 166 Lafayette Rd., Salisbury, MA. 978-853-3678

BABY GRAND PIANO walnut, Vase 1940's?, great shape, storage bench. Moving. \$1900/best. 978-778-2236

CAR Stereo system Kenwood, 1,000 watt amp with two 12" Orion red series subs, with case. Pioneer CD deck. Wires. \$300. 978-374-6407, Mark or Christina.

CLARINET in case. E. M. Winston Boston. Excellent condition. \$150/best offer. 978-777-4383

DRUM KIT Slingerland, 4 piece, with hardware. \$350. 978-374-8144

DRUM SET 9 pieces - excellent condition \$600/best offer. (603) 434-3995

FLUGLE Holton flugle, in D flat, 1 year old, perfect condition, with case, paid \$750, asking \$500. 603-329-6291 Cheryl

FLUGLE in D Flat, Olds, real beauty, perfect condition, with case, paid \$850, asking \$550. 603-329-6291 Cheryl

GUITARS 2 Classic Ovation Viper III with special PU's fender A/E California Edition with cases. Both guitars are in mint condition. \$300 ea. firm. 978-372-7148 for info.

KEYBOARD Electronic Yamaha PSR-195 Portatone stereo sampling piano & folding stand, like new, \$150/best. 978-745-3124

ORGAN Baldwin, with storage bench, cherry wood good condition, \$250/best offer. Call 603-895-9317

132 Musical Instruments

PIANO Baldwin, 1930's era Gulbransen, restored walnut case with matching bench. Perfect condition. nice sound! \$2,149. Call 978-462-4002

PIANO Baldwin 50 High gloss ebony. Excellent condition. \$1900. Call 508-843-7477. legh@comcast.net

PIANO FREE You pick up. 603-548-6093

PIANO George Steck Soine, approximately 7 years old, excellent condition. \$550. 978-473-1231

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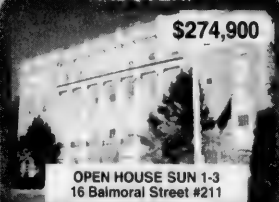
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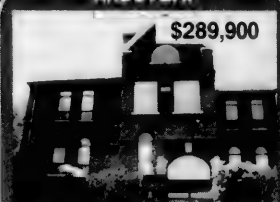


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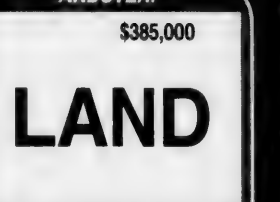
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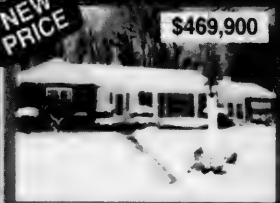


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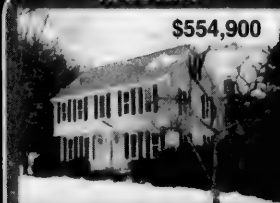
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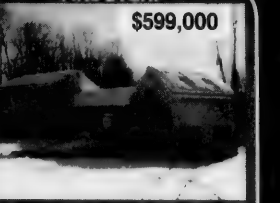
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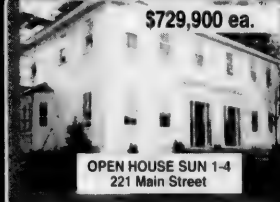
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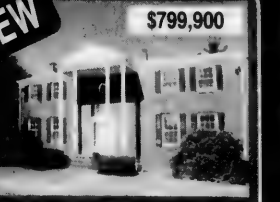


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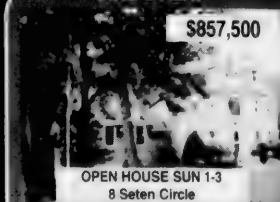
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ANDOVER!

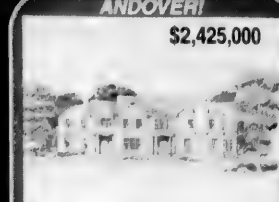
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Desirable Meadowview Condominium! Private rear of complex location for this 4 room unit featuring serene wooded views from living room and balcony. Great updates, great location, great price!

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HAVERHILL - \$224,900
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ANDOVER - \$218,900
Desirable top floor unit at popular Colonial Drive complex. Move-in condition unit with fresh paint, new kitchen, 2 bedrooms, great commuter location, heat includes fee and use of pool.

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ANDOVER - \$228,900
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ANDOVER - \$244,900
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METHUEN - \$309,000
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Call Arlene Santangelo
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ANDOVER - \$319,900
Abbott Pond Town House located just minutes from town center, commuter rail and schools. Two spacious bedrooms plus loft space ideal for office, fully appliances kitchen, family room with wet bar and slider to private patio.

Call Norma Cohen
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NORTH ANDOVER - \$339,900
Sited directly on Mill Pond with a fabulous view. Sparkling 6 room unit features new hardwood floors and carpeting, a master bath with dressing area and walk-in closet and second floor laundry.

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NORTH ANDOVER - \$359,900
New 11 unit Town House community near shopping, highways. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, hardwood, granite kitchens, gas fireplaces, C/A, 1 car garage parking. Call and inquire about the \$10,000 early pre-construction discount.

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ANDOVER - \$389,900
Affordable 3 bedroom, 2 bath fully appliances Cape with real wood burning fireplace in living room, 1st floor den/office, 2 bay windows, replacement windows, center of town location.

Call Carla Burns
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ANDOVER - \$399,900
Abbott Pond condominium! Six room, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath Town House with lots of hardwood flooring, partially finished lower level, one car garage. Hard to beat location near everything!

Call Laurie Liffmann
978-475-2201



ANDOVER - \$409,900
Shawheen Village Colonial on pretty tree lined street. Front-to-back fireplace living room, hardwood floors, screened porch, finished lower level, beautiful yard. Many recent updates include roof, windows, boiler.

Call Roberta Plati
978-475-2201



ANDOVER - \$429,900
Absolutely immaculate Ranch in close to town neighborhood! Many updates include modern kitchen and baths, hardwoods, fireplace, garage, huge level private lot all within a mile of Routes 495 and 93. Move right in!

Call Jeannette Belben
978-687-4465



ANDOVER - \$464,900
Fully appliances 8 room, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath Contemporary Split Entry at end of popular near-town cul-de-sac. Cathedral ceilings, fireplace living room and family room, lots of hardwood, screened porch, large fenced lot.

Call Joan Johnson
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ANDOVER - \$525,000
Walk to town center! Well maintained 8 room Multi-level with open concept. Granite & maple kitchen, new family room, many cathedral ceilings, fireplace living room, C/A, 2 car garage.

Call E.J. Perdigo
978-687-4465



NORTH ANDOVER - \$534,900
This 8 room Colonial is ready to just move in! Beautifully sited on a private wooded acre plus lot, this home features new siding, new septic and new boiler. Hardwood floors on first floor, 4 carpeted bedrooms up.

Call Kevin Abernathy
978-687-4465



NORTH ANDOVER - \$539,000
Location, location, location! Brick front 8 room Colonial on 1.5 acre lot in Annie Sargent district. Granite and stainless kitchen, fireplace family room, lots of hardwood, 2.5 updated baths, screened porch, 6 person Jacuzzi!

Call Margus Deery
978-687-4465



NORTH ANDOVER - \$569,900
Hip roof Ranch majestically sited on wooded acre lot at end of cul-de-sac neighborhood. Nearly 2300 sq. ft. of living space, 4 bedrooms, updated granite kitchen, huge lower level, 1st floor laundry, 2.5 baths, 2 car garage.

Call Colette Fanuele
978-687-4465



ANDOVER - \$574,900
8 room Multi-level in popular Carriage Chaise area, walk to Sanborn School and minutes from rte 93. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, lots of hardwood, 2 car garage plus separate 2 car garage with large workshop.

Call Marilyn Burke
978-687-4465



ANDOVER - \$579,900
Decorator décor! Beautiful spacious 8 room Ranch offering granite island kitchen with maple cabinetry, fireplace dining room, fireplace living room, family room plus 400 sq ft in newly done loft, lovely lot with private gardens, C/A.

Call Marilyn Burke
978-687-4465



NORTH ANDOVER - \$619,900
Stately 9 room Colonial on large beautiful landscaped wooded acre lot in Sargent School district. Two story foyer, 2 fireplaces, big family room, finished lower level with exercise and playrooms excellent floor plan!

Call Joan Pelletier
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NORTH ANDOVER - \$659,900
Beautiful classic Colonial on large private lot in popular neighborhood. Great room with cathedral ceiling, skylights and French doors to porch, 2 fireplaces, nice updates, hardwood floors - fully appliances.

Call Cheryl McNally
978-475-2201



NORTH ANDOVER - \$669,900
Young traditional 8 room, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath Colonial decorated with country charm and featuring large master bedroom suite over attached 2 car garage, secluded acre lot with lovely landscaping.

Call Ellen Yurko
978-475-2201



NORTH ANDOVER - \$675,000
Immaculate 9+ room Colonial with fireplace family room, center island kitchen, master suite, 1st floor office, 2nd floor laundry room, media room in finished walk-out lower level, very popular neighborhood.

Call Arlene Santangelo
978-687-4465



ANDOVER - \$739,900
Location! Freshly painted spacious 9 room Colonial on popular West Andover cul-de-sac in new school district. Gas fireplace in family room, office, deck with hot tub overlooks AVIS land.

Call Laurie Liffmann
978-475-2201



NORTH ANDOVER - \$749,900
Forest View Estates! Young, fresh & appealing Colonial home featuring open foyer, granite island kitchen that opens to cathedral ceiling sunroom, front and back staircases, 3+ baths, master bedroom with sitting room.

Call Jon Maren
978-475-2201



ANDOVER - \$759,900
Spacious newly built 12 room Colonial featuring an open foyer, all hardwood on 1st floor, 9' ceilings up and down, cathedral ceiling family room, C/A, 2 full & 2 half baths. Private level lot convenient to town commuter routes.

Call Jeannette Belben
978-687-4465



BOXFORD - \$799,500
Superb estate-like setting for this gorgeous 9 room Colonial on cul-de-sac. Freshly updated newer gourmet granite and stainless kitchen - finished third floor and lower level professionally landscaped 2 acres.

Call Gretchen Papineau
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ANDOVER - \$799,900
A beautiful cul-de-sac is the setting for this nicely maintained open flow Colonial. Oversized kitchen has vaulted ceiling eating area overlooking the deck and private back yard. Finished walkout lower level has a full bath.

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ANDOVER - \$924,900
New construction with lots of premium upgrades. Granite & cherry kitchen, maple hardwood floors throughout, master bath with steam shower & Jacuzzi, heated 3 car garage, mahogany deck. Located near town & Phillips Academy.

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NORTH ANDOVER - \$929,000
New construction! 10 room Colonial with exceptional details and quality, gourmet granite kitchen, butler's pantry, level lot with room for a pool, Sargent School district. Ready in 30 days!

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ANDOVER - \$1,199,000
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ANDOVER - \$1,229,000
Reduced \$70K! Orchard Estates' New construction by master builder. Olympic Construction in area of 4 new homes near private schools, town & commuter routes. Open foyer - luxurious master suite, 3 fireplaces, 3 car garage, C/A.

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ANDOVER - \$1,725,000
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THE BACK PAGE

Fermentation and Distillation



Bill Dalton

Since adding my e-mail address to the end of each column, I have received many interesting messages, one from as far away as Paris. From those folks no longer living in town, a common theme is nostalgia for Andover; they miss the town. It is impressive that Andover was, and is, such a good place to live that many former residents keep up by reading the *Townsmen*, often the online edition. The online readers would do themselves a favor by subscribing to the much larger hardcopy issue; it is much more enjoyable to have the paper in-hand.

The best thing about hearing from readers, however, is that I learn from them, and I am reminded of things I once knew or should have known. For example, I had many responses to my Little League story, which described Andover's first Little League team, the Cardinals. (Incidentally, I never use the name of a person who sends me an e-mail unless I receive permission from that person.)

TOM AND BARRY LOW

Barry Low, the mascot or batboy of Andover's first Little League team, and a player after that, wrote about his dad, Tom Low. Tom was the first manager/coach in the Andover Little League; he is in good health and in his mid 90s, living in the house he grew up in near the center of town. I remember Tom as a knowledgeable coach, and his Little League players liked him. One of the reasons he was a good coach was that he'd been a very good baseball player, and he understood the game. He was captain of Punchard's 1931 baseball team and pitched many years on Andover's Town Team. He also played on a semi-pro team in Lawrence and was so good that the Boston Braves gave him a tryout.

Barry mentioned to me something that I didn't know about his father. He's a musician and plays the violin. Tom Low played regularly at the old Square and Compass Club dances. (The Square and Compass Club was on the northeast corner of High and Elm streets, facing Elm Street.) He passed his love for music to his son. Barry plays the violin, accordion, piano and organ, and is about to retire as director of music for the Bedford Public School System. He too lives locally.

DAVE MURPHY

It was pointed out to me that David Murphy, who played a year behind me, was a third player who played four years of Andover Little League in the majors (along with Billy Gallant and me). I really choked when I failed to mention Dave. He was one of the best-ever Andover Little League players. He was on the all-star team I mentioned in my earlier column, and was only 11 years old at the time. David hit his first Little League homer when he was only 9. When he was 11, Brad Richards and David tied for most home runs at six. (I remember Brad hitting two grand slams in one inning.) When David was 12 he hit 14 homers, a record that stood for almost 30 years. David grew up on 1 Punchard Ave., and now lives very close to that address.

THE GRAPEFRUIT CAPER

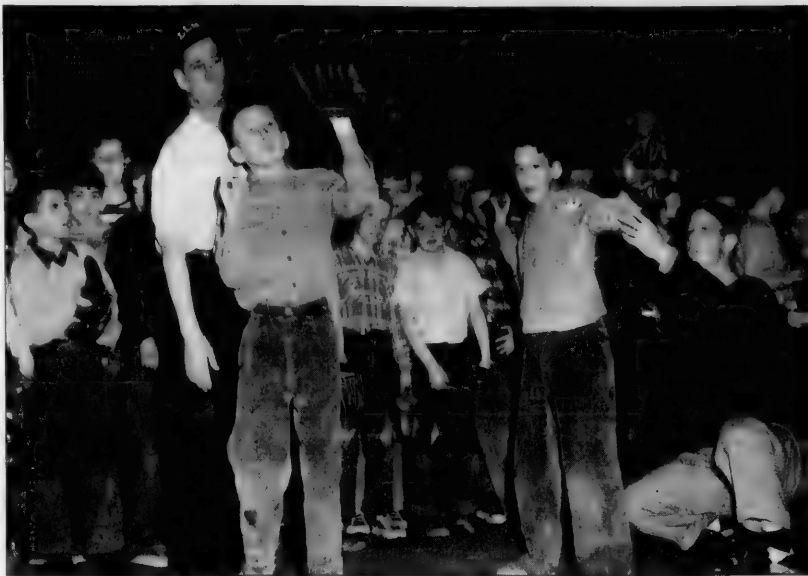
Sometime in the middle 1960s, there was an annual Little League father and son softball game that was associated with one of the teams. There was a coach famous for taking things a bit seriously. He took enormous cuts at the ball, and everyone could see that he was very intent on blasting the ball out of the Little League park. Well, one dad had a remedy. He painted a grapefruit white, smuggling it to the boy who was pitching to the assistant coach.

I now quote from an e-mail: "The stage was set. The pitcher gave his best job pitch, and Babe 'Little League' Ruth hit it so hard that there wasn't a piece of grapefruit left larger than a bottle cap. We almost had to call the game during the first inning due to laughter. And I believe the assistant coach laughed along with us."

Stories like that make me miss Andover.

JIM (?) BISSETT (?) AND BOB BURNHAM

When I wrote my Little League column, I mentioned that I had a picture of the tryouts that ran in the *Townsmen* in the spring of Little League's first or second year. My talented wife has enhanced the picture, and I can see that I am wearing an "LAL" hat I used in my first year. That means the tryout picture was taken in the second year, the year I think we won the league title. The picture shows Mr. Bissett coaching Willy Simpson, who also had played the first year of Little League; Bob Burnham is coaching me. Burnham was a great athlete; he was an ambidextrous pitcher who played for the Yankees for a short while. I couldn't remember Mr. Bissett's first name in that earlier column. I think now that it was "Jim" Bissett, but I am far from sure. I



Coaching Willy Simpson (front, left) is Jim Bissett; coaching Bill Dalton on the right is Bob Burnham. In between them in the front row are Mike Costello and Frankie Higgins. On the far left side of the picture, holding a glove, is David Hawkins. If you recognize anyone else, contact the Andover Townsman or send Bill Dalton an e-mail.

know he had a son, Kenny, who was an excellent high school miler at Central Catholic. I also remember that Mr. Bissett later worked in the Phillips Academy athletic facilities.

Also shown in the picture, in between Willy Simpson and me, are my good friends Mike Costello and Frankie Higgins. Mike's dad became the librarian - head librarian, I believe - at Merrimack College, and his mother, Dorcas Costello, later became a well-known real-estate agent. For a while, they lived in the house on the southwest corner of Whittier and Summer streets. Frankie lived on Highland Avenue and his dad was a Hood milkman who drove a truck that delivered door-to-door. On the left side of the picture is David Hawkins, intently looking at Mr. Bissett coaching Willy Simpson. This was the first time I met David, who was from Shawsheen, and we became friends for years. There are several faces adumbrated in the picture, and I wish I could recognize those kids. The picture is taken at the Phillips "Cage," which then had a dirt floor and a wooden running track above the first level.

When I said "Mr. Bissett" in the earlier column, a couple of people thought I was referring to

the colorful and tough "Drummy Bissett." That Bissett was an assistant varsity football coach at Punchard and then into the Dick Collins era at Andover High School. He had a unique style, but I thought he was one of the best coaches I ever had. Whether the two Bissetts were related is something I'd like to know. There was a Robert Bissett (note that the spelling of the last name is different from what I have been using) on Pop Lovely's undefeated, untied, 1937 state champion football team. If Robert Bissett is either of the Bissetts above, and the picture looks a bit like Drummy, that means I may be misspelling the last name.

If you can help me with these "facts," please send me an e-mail.

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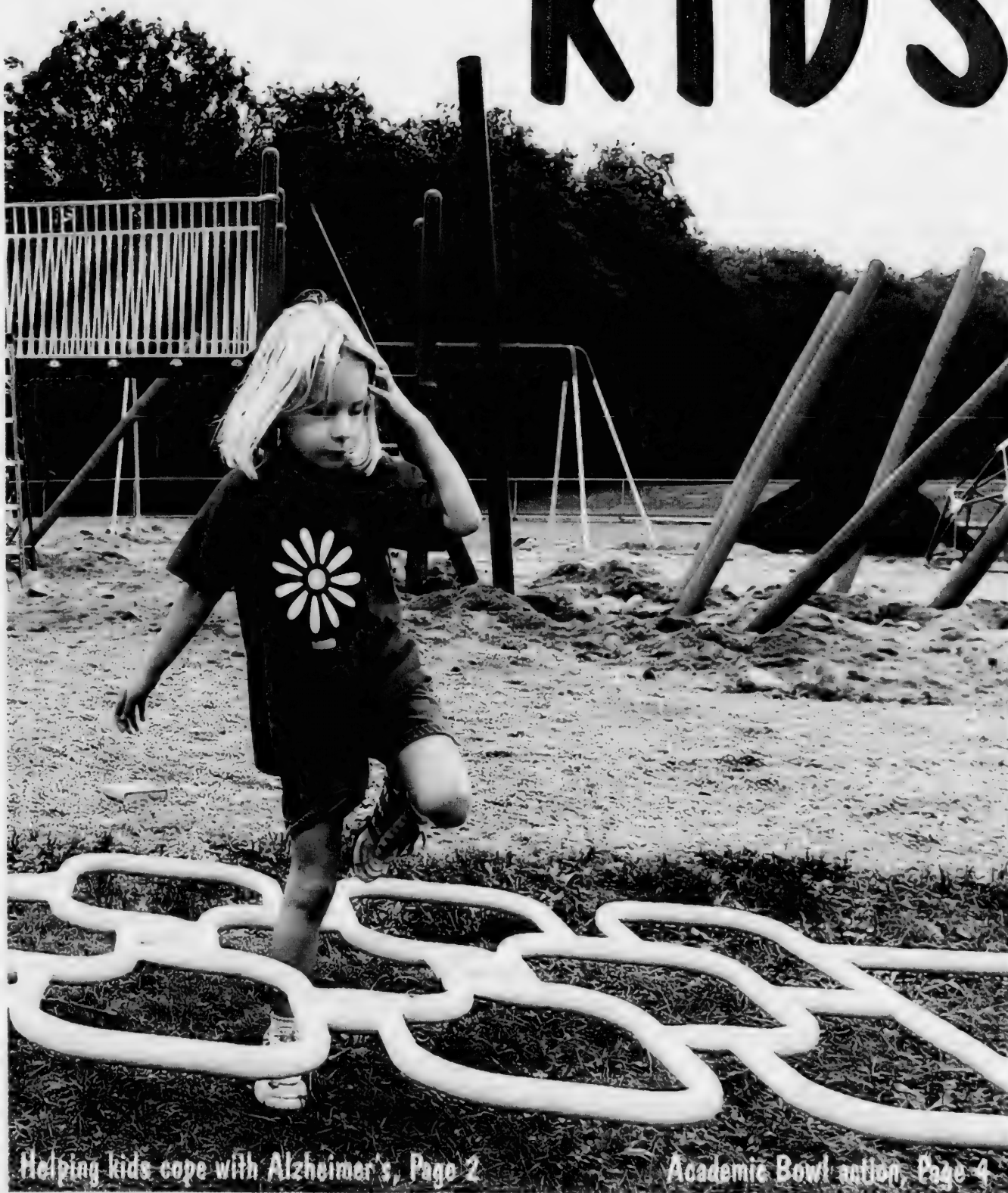
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KIDS

KIDS



Helping kids cope with Alzheimer's, Page 2

Academic Bowl action, Page 4

Encourage your children to verbalize their feelings, even though they may be difficult to hear.
Talk about your own feelings of sadness and loss.

Alzheimer's in the family

How parents can help children cope

Kristin L. Haring, LICSW

"I keep telling her my name is NOT Travis!"

-7 year old-Sam

"She takes things from my room and hides them."

-11 year old-Alicia

Alicia's expression softens with a look of uncertainty and sadness. "I wonder if she got Alzheimer's disease because Grampy died?"

Alzheimer's disease can be a troubling experience for children. They may feel frightened, angry, or resentful towards their grandparents who are behaving in a confusing and disturbing manner. Parents of young children, who are also caregivers for a family member with Alzheimer's disease, are typically emotionally and physically drained, coping with care giving, managing household tasks, working outside of the home, and coordinating after school activities. There are strategies parents can use to ease the family stress without adding to their already overflowing plates. Education, promot-

ing empathy, and validating feelings provide children tools that will allow them to feel more in control of what often feels like an out-of-control situation.

How is Alzheimer's disease affecting the children?

As a support group leader for children coping with grandparents with Alzheimer's disease, I have had numerous opportunities to observe children and discuss with them and their parents how the disease impacts their lives. Children are grieving the loss of the grandparent they once knew: the woman who had tea parties with them, took them out for pizza, baby sat them, walked them to the park, and helped them with homework. One child describes remembering when his grandmother had her license revoked; she used to drive him to school. The same child recalls when his grandmother, who used to read stories to him, could no longer read the words.

Children verbalize anger and frustration related to their grandparent's behavior, "She keeps repeating, I want to yell 'She gets in my face, I get so an-

noyed, she takes things from my room and hides them.' They worry about how their mother can take care of them and their grandparent. They express confusion, not always understanding what their grandparent is saying or what is making her angry. They often feel guilty or responsible for her behavior. Children may feel embarrassed in front of their friends; their grandparent's disease becomes a shameful family secret.

One parent reports that her children feel afraid when the grandmother yells at them and doesn't let up, that the elder was never critical, and is now always "on" them. She states that they disregard their grandmother, and talk to her as though she were a child.

Another describes her children resenting the time she spends away from them to care for the elder parent. One mother shares that her daughter always believed the grandmother was only yelling at her, until she witnessed this behavior in a different setting, "Oh mom, it's not just me, is it?"

These are normal reactions, most of which can be addressed with a few simple steps.

What can parents do?

Encourage your children to verbalize their feelings, even though they may be difficult to hear. Talk about your own feelings of sadness and loss. Allow the children to grieve the loss of the grandparent they once knew, and help them remember their grandparent before the disease. Look through photo albums and recall special times they shared. Some children never knew their grandparent without Alzheimer's disease.

Educate your children about the disease. The Alzheimer's Association has a wonderful library of books and videos focused on children whose grandparents have Alzheimer's disease. Knowledge is empowering. Emphasize that this is a disease of the brain, and the behaviors are not purposeful or malicious.

Promote empathy. Encourage your children to appreciate how their grandparent feels (i.e.: sad, frightened, lonely, embarrassed), when he/she is asking to "go home," is wandering aimlessly around the house, or is being told repeatedly that she is calling you the wrong name. Remind

Please see **ALZHEIMER'S**, Page 3

KIDS

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ALZHEIMER'S: How to help children understand



Increasingly, families have to find a way to help their children cope with and understand a grandparent suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

the children how they have felt when lost in a store, or when they are ill, or when someone is trying to talk to them and the room is too noisy and chaotic to understand what the person is saying.

Create a list of quiet activities for the child to do with the grandparent, such as folding laundry, watching a video, looking through photo albums, singing, having a healthy snack, or just sitting quietly together. Create a list of responses to frustrating behavior, and practice them. When a child has rehearsed a desirable response, he/she is more likely to use it automatically when the need arises. Focus on the importance of not arguing with their grandparent, "the person with Alzheimer's disease is always right." Encourage the child to have a calm demeanor, to speak slowly and clearly. Ensure that your child knows to get help from an adult in a situation that feels unsafe, rather than try to manage difficult behavior independently. Remind your child what is the "adult's job".

If available, a support group provides a safe setting in which children can talk about their feelings, share experiences with other children, learn more about the disease, develop positive coping skills, and remember who their

Recognizing and responding to children's feelings is paramount in helping them cope with the devastating losses connected with Alzheimer's disease, and can ultimately reduce the overall family stress.

grandparent was before the disease. Recognizing and responding to children's feelings is paramount in helping them cope with the devastating losses connected with Alzheimer's disease, and can ultimately reduce the overall family stress.

Kristin L. Haring, LICSW, is a mental health clinician in Andover, MA. She provides treatment to individual children, adults, elders, and families, in addition to children's group therapy. She can be contacted at (978) 475-6950.

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Andover middle schools compete in Academic Bowl

Lynn Willey

For the past twenty years, middle schools in the Merrimack Valley have paired up with other schools in the surrounding communities to have friendly academic competitions. The Academic Bowl is sponsored by GLEC, the Multicultural Enrichment Partnership of the Greater Lawrence Educational Collaborative. This year Doherty Middle School is paired with Timony School in Methuen, West Middle School with the Arlington School in Lawrence, and Wood Hill Middle School with the South Lawrence East School in Lawrence.

The Greater Lawrence Academic Bowl was founded in 1987

jointly by former North Andover Middle School Principal Richard Neal, William Hart, former Principal of West Middle School, and James McConaughy, current Director of the Academic Bowl. Its purpose is to promote academic excellence and foster teamwork between students in the neighboring communities of Andover, Lawrence, Methuen, North Andover and Georgetown.

The season runs between December and March with matches for the paired teams approximately every other week. The teams travel to a host school and compete in hands-on activities and buzzer rounds. In both cases they work together in their assigned squads and are

scored based on their work and responses. The students need to have knowledge of the history of all the participating schools, as well as community and state government information. This year they focused their match preparations on Africa, Europe, United States history from 1987, authors, and current events.

Hands-on activities include making rolling objects out of common materials that travel farther and straighter than your opponents, completing a modified version of Scrabble, and completing maps relating to Africa and Europe. Examples of buzzer round questions are: What are the five freedoms guaranteed to its citizens by the Bill of Rights? Name two of the



Courtesy photo

Middle school students work together on their tower building project during last week's Academic Bowl.

KIDS

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July 31-Aug. 4: *The Princess Bride*, in Andover
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July 17-21: "Mixing It Up" - age 3-6 & ages 6-12
July 24-28: "Let's Explore Asia" - age 3-6 & ages 6-12
July 31-August 4: "Storybook Art" - age 3-6
August 7-11: "DINO-mite" - age 3-6
August 14-18: "Circus! Circus!" - age 3-6
August 21-25: "Wild, Wild West" - age 3-6

One-Day Workshops (in Reading)

July 5: "Jewelry" - ages 6+
July 6: "Fiber Arts" - ages 6+;
"Edible Art" - ages 4-10
July 7: "Outdoor Painting" - ages 6+;
"Magicians Hat" - ages 4-10

Music Camps (in Reading)

8:30am-noon
July 10-14 - ages 6-8
July 17-21 - ages 4-6
July 24-28 - ages 4-6

three countries that President Bush visited recently. Whose name is on the gym in one

Lawrence school (hint: he was a

Please see BOWL, Page 5

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Events for kids in and around Andover



Courtesy photo

A middle school student begins to build a tower, a challenge that is part of the annual Academic Bowl competition in Andover schools.

BOWL: A favorite of Andover students

center fielder in the 1940s and '50s for the Boston Red Sox)?

To commemorate the 20th Anniversary of Academic Bowl and to encourage team spirit, each school designed their own unique team banner which was displayed at all the matches.

Even though this is a friendly competition, points are scored, and a winner will be determined.

A Parent Evening with Awards, activities and raffles will be held on April 25th.

Parents will have the opportunity to "walk in their child's shoes" and participate in a sample buzzer round.

Andover Department of Community Services, 36 Bartlet St., has a variety of spring classes.

■ **Happy Feet Bring a Good Night's Sleep, Relax with Reflexology**, March 29.

■ **CPR at the Public Safety Center**, March 29 from 6 to 10 p.m., \$30.

■ **Mexican Fiesta at the Technical School**, March 30 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., \$44.

■ **Getting Paid to Talk**, An Introduction to Professional Voice-Acting, at Andover High School, March 30 from 6:30 to 9 p.m., \$36.

To see course descriptions, fees and locations check the Andover Web site at www.andover-ma.gov/dcs. Space is limited. Call DCS at (978) 623-8274.

Andover Youth Foundation's annual **Raising the Roof** telethon has been postponed until October. Anyone who sent donations or donated auction items will be contacted by Sheila Stone, chairwoman of the Unrestricted Funds Committee. The telethon will be held in the Collins Center at Andover High School Oct. 25 to 27. It will be televised on local cable. Call (978) 807-2299.

Andover schools are helping those most in need by participating in Anton's Cleaners 11th Annual Coats for Kids drive. This year, three schools in Andover are lending their efforts to the drive.

Students of the South Elementary School, Andover School of Montessori and the Andover West Middle School are participating in this year's drive. Each has organized a drive to collect adults' and children's coats, which will then be donated to the Coats for Kids program. With more than 230 schools participating in the drive throughout eastern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire, the efforts of the local students are crucial to the success of the program. Last year, nearly two-thirds of the 64,603 coats that were donated came in through the school program.

All of the elementary and middle schools that have registered for the drive are eligible to compete in the School Rewards Program, which awards valuable prizes to the three elementary and three middle schools that collect the most coats based on a coats-per-pupil ratio.

CALENDAR

MARCH 26

Merrimack Valley YMCA camps open house, 2 to 5 p.m. at Andover/North Andover YMCA, 165 Haverhill St. The program will teach about Camp Lawrence, Camp Nokomis and YMCA Day Camp Otter. Parents and kids will be able to meet camp directors, staff and campers. Call (978) 975-1330.

MARCH 31

Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament, 6 p.m. at Indian Ridge Country Club, Lovejoy Road. There will be \$10,000 in prizes. Cost to play for the evening is \$150. Proceeds to benefit West Elementary School. Space is limited. Visit www.westelptto.com.

APRIL 1

Andover Animal Hospital annual rabies vaccination clinic for dogs and cats, 8:30 a.m. to noon at 233 Lowell St. Cost is \$10 per animal. All animals should

be leashed or restrained. Vaccinations good for three years if owner can provide current rabies certificate proving the pet has been immunized within the past year. Otherwise, the vaccination will be good for Residents who have not yet licensed their dogs for 2006 should call the town clerk's office at (978) 623-8257.

Pete Robbins & Centric at Phillips Academy, 7:30 p.m. in the Timken Room, Graves Hall, Phillips Academy, 180 Main St. Andover native and Playscape recording artist Pete Robbins will be leading his jazz group. Admission is free. Call (978) 749-4000.

APRIL 13

Second Night Passover Seder, at Congregation Beth Israel, 501 S. Main St. Includes a catered Kosher meal. Cost is \$40 for adults and \$22 for children 12 and younger. Reservations are required. Call Amy Sherr at (978) 474-0540.

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Reading and writing rock at West Elementary

Education Notebook

Colin Steele

The witch trials of the 17th century came to Andover last week.

Third-grade students performed a play about witches in Andover as part of the weeklong West Elementary Readers and Writers Conference. The 11th annual WERAWC (pronounced

"we rock") featured visits by almost a dozen authors, illustrators and poets, as well as student performances in the auditorium and individual classrooms.

"It's a blast," Assistant Principal Elizabeth Roos said. "It's really a lot of fun."

A committee of 55 parent volunteers helps Roos organize and run WERAWC every year. The parents do everything from tak-

ing pictures and selling T-shirts to escorting guests to classrooms and getting them lunch. The Parent-Teacher Organization contributed \$8,000 to fund the conference this year.

"It's a real community tradition," Roos said.

The highlights of the week were Tuesday and Thursday's student performances, where children in each grade level acted, sang and read poetry and autobiographies for parents. On Thursday alone, there were 17 different performances going on in the school at the same time, Roos said.

In addition to parents, those who came to see WERAWC's student performances included School Committee members, Superintendent Claudia Bach and Assistant Superintendent Marcia O'Neil.

School holds shampoo drive

When they're not busy reading and writing at West Elementary, Roos and the student council collect toiletries for People's Pantry in North Andover. Last month they collected enough toothbrushes and toothpaste for 125 clients, and this month they're collecting shampoo.

One Tuesday a month, Roos and six students bring the goods to the pantry.

The highlights of the week were Tuesday and Thursday's student performances, where children in each grade level acted, sang and read poetry and autobiographies for parents.

"We get stuff that you can't necessarily get on food stamps," Roos said.

The school has held monthly drives for the pantry for seven years. People may drop off shampoo bottles in a collection box in the main office.

Science grants awarded

Middle and high school teachers recently received more than \$3,700 to bring new science equipment and innovative programs to their classrooms.

The Corbett Family Foundation awarded Peggy Corbett Science Mini-Grants to nine teachers. The largest grant, for \$750, went to Doherty Middle School's Elizabeth Farnham and Paula Parker to bring the Museum of Science star lab to the school. Andover High School geology teacher Frank Wroblawski received \$685 for a rock- and mineral-cutting saw, and his colleague Paula Brady received another \$685 for a digital projector in her

life science classes.

The other winners were Mary Jo Carabatsos, Mollie Shenker, Roxanne Plaskon, Marilyn Connaughton and Dene Kouletsis.

Schools spring into art

The Collins Center for the Arts will become an art gallery Wednesday night as students from kindergarten through 12th grade show off their work at the District Arts Festival.

This year's event, titled "Spring Into the Arts," will not only feature students' artwork but also drama and musical performances. It runs from 7 to 9 p.m., and refreshments will be available. For more information call the assistant superintendent's office at (978) 623-8506.

Education Notebook features Andover school news every Monday. If you have an item for the column, call staff writer Colin Steele at (978) 946-2000 or e-mail csteale@eagletribune.com

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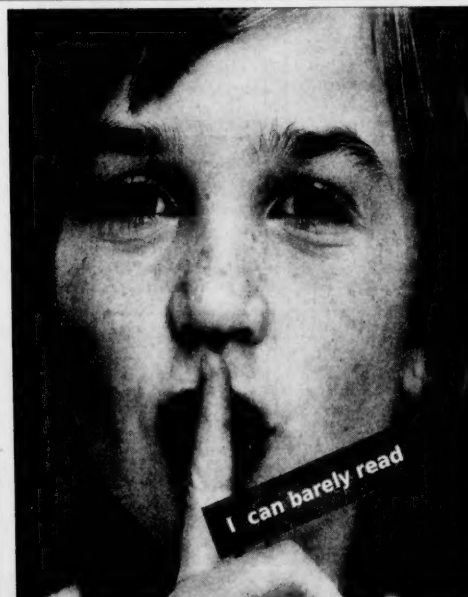
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Young poets vie for first place in annual Andover library contest

BY ANITA FRITZ
STAFF WRITER

ANDOVER — Move over Robert Frost. Memorial Hall Library received 300 entries for its Teen Poetry Contest this year — double the number from last year when it held its first contest.

"It's amazing how many kids write poetry in their notebooks and journals. They aren't intimidated by it," said Kimberly Lynn, teen librarian. "Some walked into the library and just pulled a poem out of their notebooks to enter into the contest."

Jeffrey Harrison, a former Andover resident, and Mark Schorr, an Andover resident, both published poets, are judging the contest that began at the end of January and ended last week. The contest was open to students in grades six through 12 who either live or go to school in Andover.

The two men will read every poem and will choose about 10 winners, with one top winner to receive \$100.

"I'm happy I'm not one of the

"It's amazing how many kids write poetry in their notebooks and journals. They aren't intimidated by it."

Kimberly Lynn, teen librarian

judges," Lynn said. "Every poem was exciting and interesting to read. The range and types of poetry we received was tremendous."

Lynn said the judges are choosing blindly — each poem is numbered, and judges don't know what grade each poet is in.

"Some of the poems are so lively, with many being about seasons or favorite pets," Lynn said. "Other poems were intense and dealt with current events and terrorist acts. And then there were the heavy-duty subjects, including teen angst and coming of age."

Lynn said one student wrote a poem about Peter Arthur, the Andover High School social studies teacher who died suddenly of

an apparent heart attack last month at the age of 32.

Last year's top winner, 15-year-old Veda Eswarappa, now a sophomore at Phillips Academy and a 2004 graduate of West Middle School, said the contest is a great way to encourage students to read and write poetry and to allow them to express themselves and share their feelings.

"I think younger people are more open-minded and don't have any preconceived notions about what poetry should be about and how it should be written," Eswarappa said. "I've been writing poetry since I was in elementary school. I don't have as much time to write as I'd like anymore because I'm so involved in school and activities, but I do it

when I can."

when I can."

Eswarappa received first place last year for her poem "Zeus Almighty." She said she wrote it after reading Homer's "Odyssey" in ninth grade.

"I wrote about what would have happened if Cyclops was good and Odysseus was bad," Eswarappa said. "It was my al-

ternate story about what happened."

Lynn hopes to expand the library's teen poetry program by working with local schools and the Robert Frost Foundation.

"We want teachers to encourage these kids because their words can be very powerful," Lynn said. "Teens' emotions are running so high during adolescence, and this is one outlet for them. The contest is a great way for us to validate kids' feelings."

Lynn said that winners will be notified at the end of April and that a reception will be held at the library for the winners on May 3.

"I think younger people are more open-minded and don't have any preconceived notions about what poetry should be about and how it should be written."

Veda Eswarappa, 15, last year's top winner



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Kaleidoscope program plans 26th summer

Why do hundreds of kids, excited about learning, return to Kaleidoscope each summer? Why do nearly 100 percent of parents surveyed say they would recommend Kaleidoscope to other parents? What causes new residents to call shortly after arriving in town? Why do parents drive from more than 20 other communities to join the excitement?

Why do some of the best teachers in the area choose to give up part of their summer vacations to work with Kaleidoscope Kids?

The most obvious answers to these questions would be: outstanding supervision and faculty, exciting and varied subjects, small classes, over 50 devoted teen assistants and, of course, that great popcorn!

But the story of Kaleidoscope goes even further. Since 1981, children from Andover and surrounding communities have found that "Learning is Fun." Courses are designed to capture children's imaginations and to stimulate them to

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think in new and creative ways. Classes are small and are taught by exceptional professionals. And, most important, safety is the #1 priority of everyone associated with the program.

Throughout its history, Kaleidoscope has found a home at Andover High School, West Middle School, West Elementary, South Elementary and, currently, Wood Hill Middle School. Partnering with the Andover Department of Community Services since its inception, Kaleidoscope still proudly stands as Andover's original summer enrichment program.

From July 10-28, children ages 3-12 can

select from a huge variety of classes, including science, math, computers, literature, music, art, fitness, drama and very specialized classes including Invention Convention, Scrapjazz and Treasure Island. Students can choose morning and/or afternoon classes. Each week is a separate session. Early drop-off, as well as extended care, are also available on a weekly and daily basis.

This year, Kaleidoscope has partnered with two outstanding local programs, Ironstone Farm and Yang's Martial Arts, to bring additional courses to its students. Children may enroll in Horsemanship. Staff members from Ironstone will come

to Kaleidoscope to teach the classes, and all students will visit the farm to apply their new knowledge with real horses. One of Yang's experienced martial arts instructors will come to Kaleidoscope to help students improve coordination, motor skills and self confidence.

Kaleidoscope also offers the KITE program for academically talented children in grades K-8. KITE will be held at Merrimack College from July 31 to Aug. 4. The 2006 theme is "Mind, Matter and Mystique." This year's KITE coordinator is Andover educator Ethel Coltin.

According to Janis Baron, founder and director of Kaleidoscope, the Kaleidoscope office staff is always willing to talk with parents, learn about their children, and make suggestions if desired. The office can be reached weekdays and weekends at (978) 475-1422 or by e-mail at mypopcorn2@aol.com. The Kaleidoscope Web site is www.kaleidoscopekids.com.

KIDS



2006

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE! NOW IN OUR 26th YEAR ~ CREATIVE LEARNING FOR CHILDREN

JULY 10 - 28, 2006 ~ AM and PM COURSES FOR KIDS 3-12 • EARLY CARE and EXTENDED DAY OPTIONS ~ ANDOVER

KIDS! Whatever your interests may be, Kaleidoscope has something exciting for YOU next summer!

ART

Art & Drama
Printmaking
Artist's Workshop • Cartooning
Ceramics • Native American Art
Sculpture • It's A Scream
Stained Glass
Stencils and Pencils
Paper-making
Sketchbook Skills • Drawing
Painting • Women In Art

CRAFTS/SPECIALTIES

Jewelry-Making
Toy-Making • Treasure Island
Wood Works • Construction Zone
Sign Language • Scrap Jazz
Hair Design • Magic, Mystique & More
Dough & Clay
Party Pizazz
Invention Convention

MEDIA

Mass Media Blast
Video Live
Capture The Moment

WRITING

Author Author

THEATER/DRAMA

Adventure Theater
Art and Drama
Markers and Melodies
Play Production • Puppet Workshop
Musical Theater
Starlight Express
Comedy Theater
Cirque de Kaleidoscope

SCIENCE

Robots
Astronomy
Discovering Dinosaurs
Fun Physics
Rocket Launch
Science or Wizardry
Science Sampler
Understanding Animals
Blast Off
Under the Sea

SOCIAL STUDIES/ OTHER CULTURES

Mummies & Mosaics
Knights and Castles
Native American Art

OUTDOOR/SPORTS

Hoop Stars • Horsemanship
Soccer Savvy
Jump Rope Jubilee
Golf Club

MOVEMENT FITNESS

Cheer Dance • Movin' and Groovin'
Dance Explosion
Martial Arts

LITERATURE

Potter Power
Food for Thought
Sneaks on the Loose
Disney Delights
Magical Mystery Tour

COMPUTERS/MATH

Math Mania
Powerpoint
Computer Capers
Computer Bytes

and More...

MUSIC

Markers and Melodies
Movin' and Groovin'
Instrument Making

Ask about our KITE Program July 31 - Aug. 4, 2006 for academically talented students at Merrimack College

WEBSITE: www.kaleidoscopekids.com

Brochures available. Call **978-475-1422** • or write Kaleidoscope, Box 506, Andover, MA 01810
(in cooperation with Andover Dept. of Community Services)